STARBLAZER

FANTASY FICTION IN PICTURES No. 225

28p

SUPERCOP

MIKAL R. KAYN STORY A MIKAL R. KAYN STORY A MIKAL R. KAYN STOR

We at "Starblazer" want to bring you the very best in Fantasy Fiction. To do that we need *your* help.

So that we can produce the kind of stories you want to read, please fill in the questionnaire on this page and send it to "Starblazer", D. C. Thomson & Co. Ltd., 185 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2HS.

If you don't want to cut your issue of "Starblazer", you can copy the questionnaire onto a sheet of paper.

And there's a chance to win a full-colour print of one of our new-style wraparound covers!

The senders of the ten letters which we judge to be the most informative will each receive one of the prints. We want to hear from you NOW!

Name ..... **Age** .....

Address .....

What kind of science fiction do you most enjoy? Please tick appropriate boxes. If you dislike any type of story, place a cross in the box.

SUPERHEROES	☐	☐	**FANTASY**
DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS	☐	☐	**SWORD AND SORCERY**
POST HOLOCAUST	☐	☐	**HORROR**
ADVENTURE	☐	☐	**STAR WARS**
HUMOUR	☐	☐	**DR. WHO**
			MYSTERY

Where do you normally buy your STARBLAZER? _____

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Which is your favourite STARBLAZER story? _____

_____

Which is your favourite character? _____

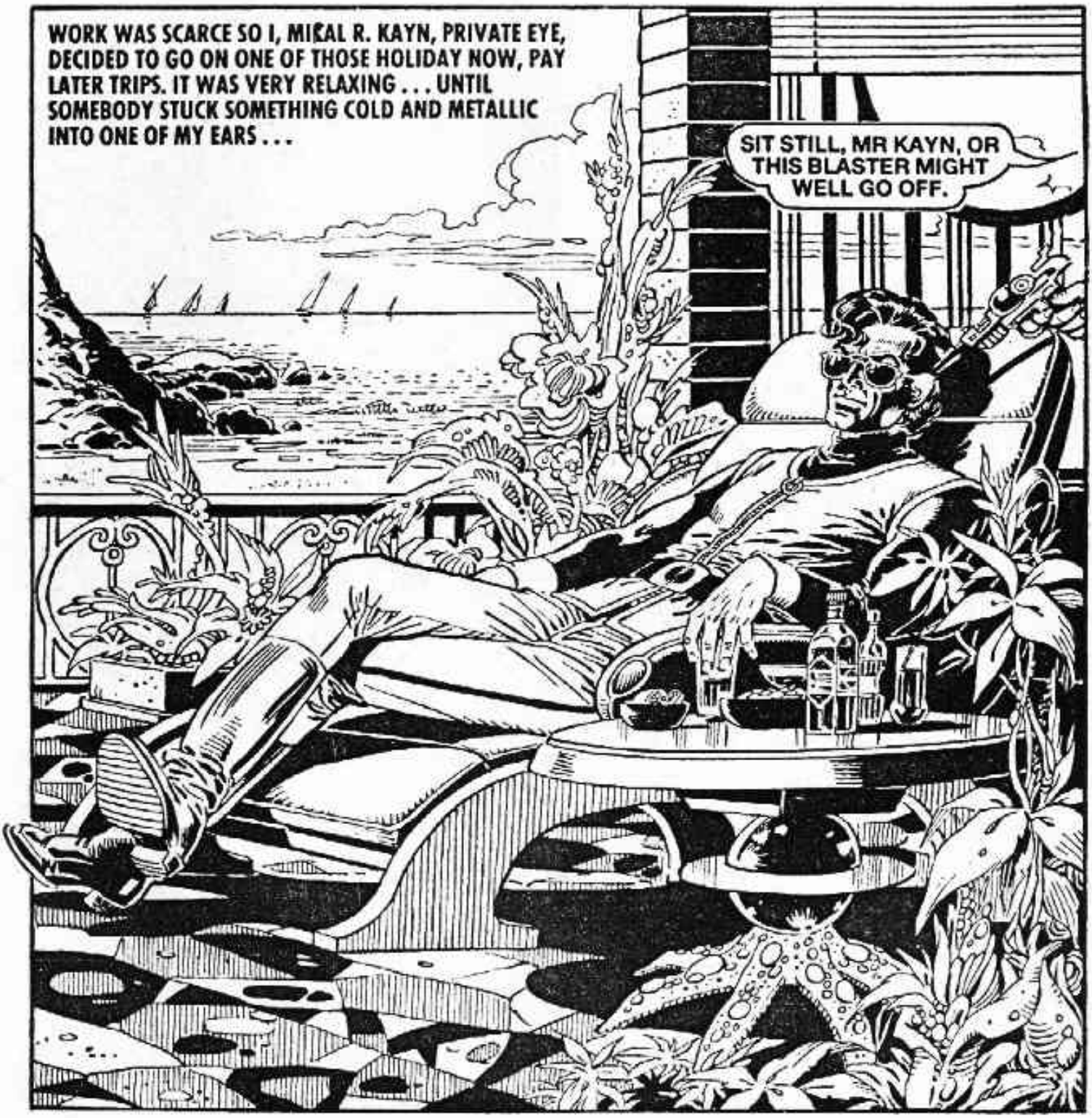
Which is your favourite science fiction movie? _____

_____

Have you any comments to make about STARBLAZER. . . good or bad? _____

_____

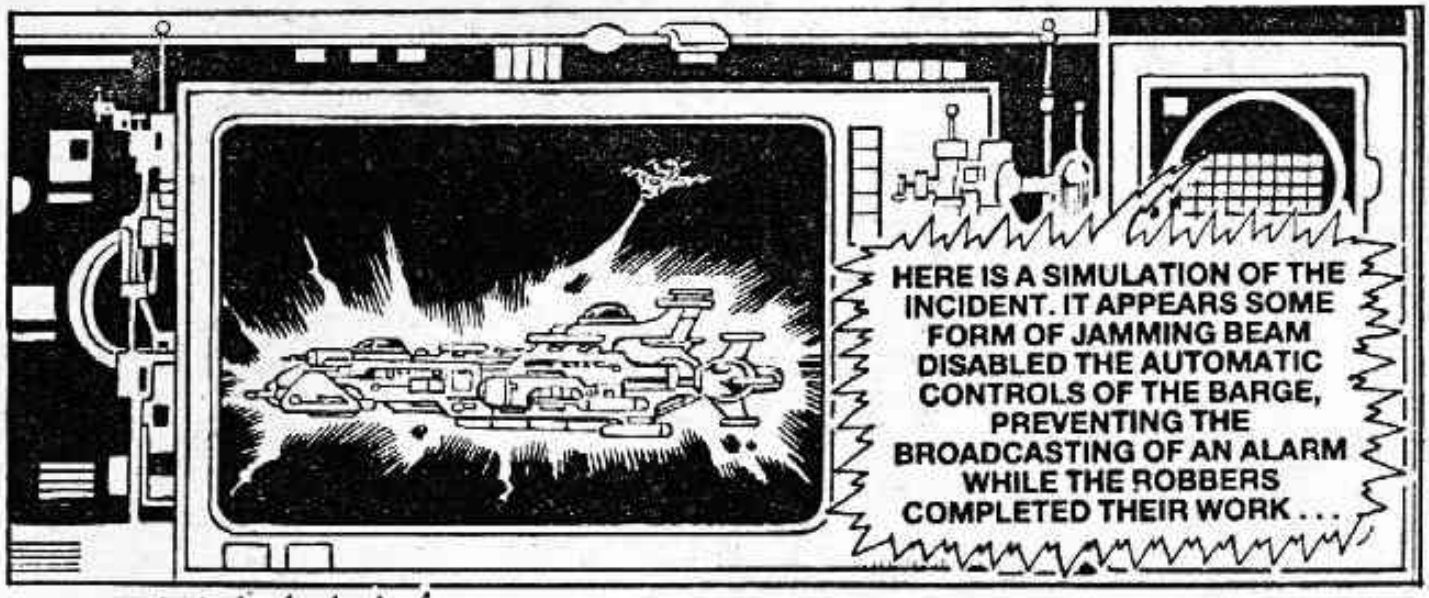
SUPERCOP


WORK WAS SCARCE SO I, MIKAL R. KAYN, PRIVATE EYE, DECIDED TO GO ON ONE OF THOSE HOLIDAY NOW, PAY LATER TRIPS. IT WAS VERY RELAXING . . . UNTIL SOMEBODY STUCK SOMETHING COLD AND METALLIC INTO ONE OF MY EARS . . .
SIT STILL, MR KAYN, OR THIS BLASTER MIGHT WELL GO OFF.

IT WAS C. D. ALABLOK, ONCE A POLICE COLLEAGUE, BUT DIFFERING FROM ME IN THAT HIS DISCHARGE HAD BEEN DISHONOURABLE.
NOT OUT HERE — INDOORS . . . AND NO TRICKS, KAYN. I'M SORT OF DESPERATE.
PUT THAT BLASTER AWAY, SEEDY . . . I'LL LISTEN TO YOU!

TAKE A SEAT — I WANT YOU TO WATCH A PROGRAMME PLAYBACK.

IT TURNED OUT TO BE A NEWS PROGRAMME PUT OUT BY NEW MOSCOW . . .
WE NOW HAVE FURTHER DETAILS ON THE ROBBING OF THE MAGRUX ORE BARGE WHILST ON PASSAGE FROM THE INNER ASTEROIDS . . .


HERE IS A SIMULATION OF THE INCIDENT. IT APPEARS SOME FORM OF JAMMING BEAM DISABLED THE AUTOMATIC CONTROLS OF THE BARGE, PREVENTING THE BROADCASTING OF AN ALARM WHILE THE ROBBERS COMPLETED THEIR WORK . . .

FIVE TONNES OF PURE MAGRUX WAS REMOVED. THIS CONSTITUTES A CONSIDERABLE FORTUNE DUE TO THE USE OF THE METAL AS THE MONETARY BASE OF MANY PRIMITIVE OUTWORLDS . . .

KAYN, THE COPS THINK I PULLED THAT JOB.
I CAN THINK OF THREE CANDIDATES — AND YOU TOP THE LIST.
KAYN, I'M NOT STUPID ENOUGH TO PULL A CAPER WITHOUT FIXING MYSELF AN ALIBI. SO HELP ME, I'M INNOCENT.
SEEDY, I DON'T TRUST AN INNOCENT GUY WHO PUTS A WALKING STICK IN MY EAR. GO FIND YOURSELF A GOOD LAWYER.
BUT BEFORE SEEDY COULD ANSWER —
SIR, WILL REFRESHMENT BE REQUIRED BY YOU AND YOUR GUEST — AND THE NUMEROUS PERSONS GATHERING ABOUT THIS PROPERTY?
HUH!

I KICKED SEEDY JUST AS HIS WALKING STICK WENT OFF —

ONLY I WAS TOO LATE TO STOP THE COPS TURNING ON THEIR SIEGE STUNNER.

THE LODGE WAS HAMMERED BY SONIC WAVES . . .
AAARGGH!

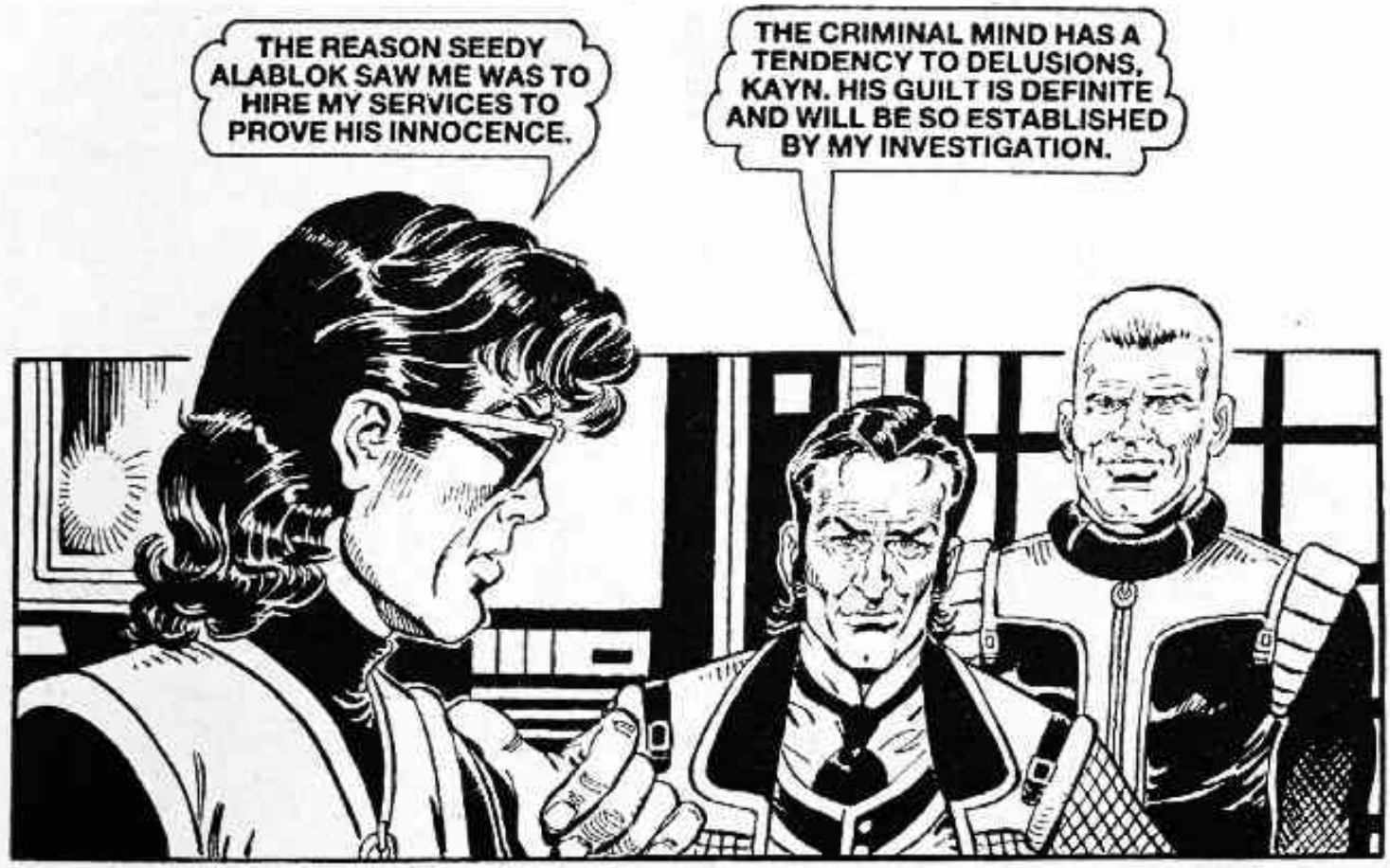
THEN THE LAW CHARGED IN . . .
REFRESHMENTS, GENTLEMEN!

NEXT MORNING I WAS SPRUNG BY A FRIEND FROM MY STAR COP DAYS . . .
I SUGGESTED SEEDY WAS TRYING TO USE YOU TO FIX A DEAL FOR THE RETURN OF THE MAGRUX. NOW ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS SATISFY THE INVESTIGATING TEAM — HAWKWUD AND SLATZ.
10-20
OH OH! THOSE TWO!
DUNGEON
30-

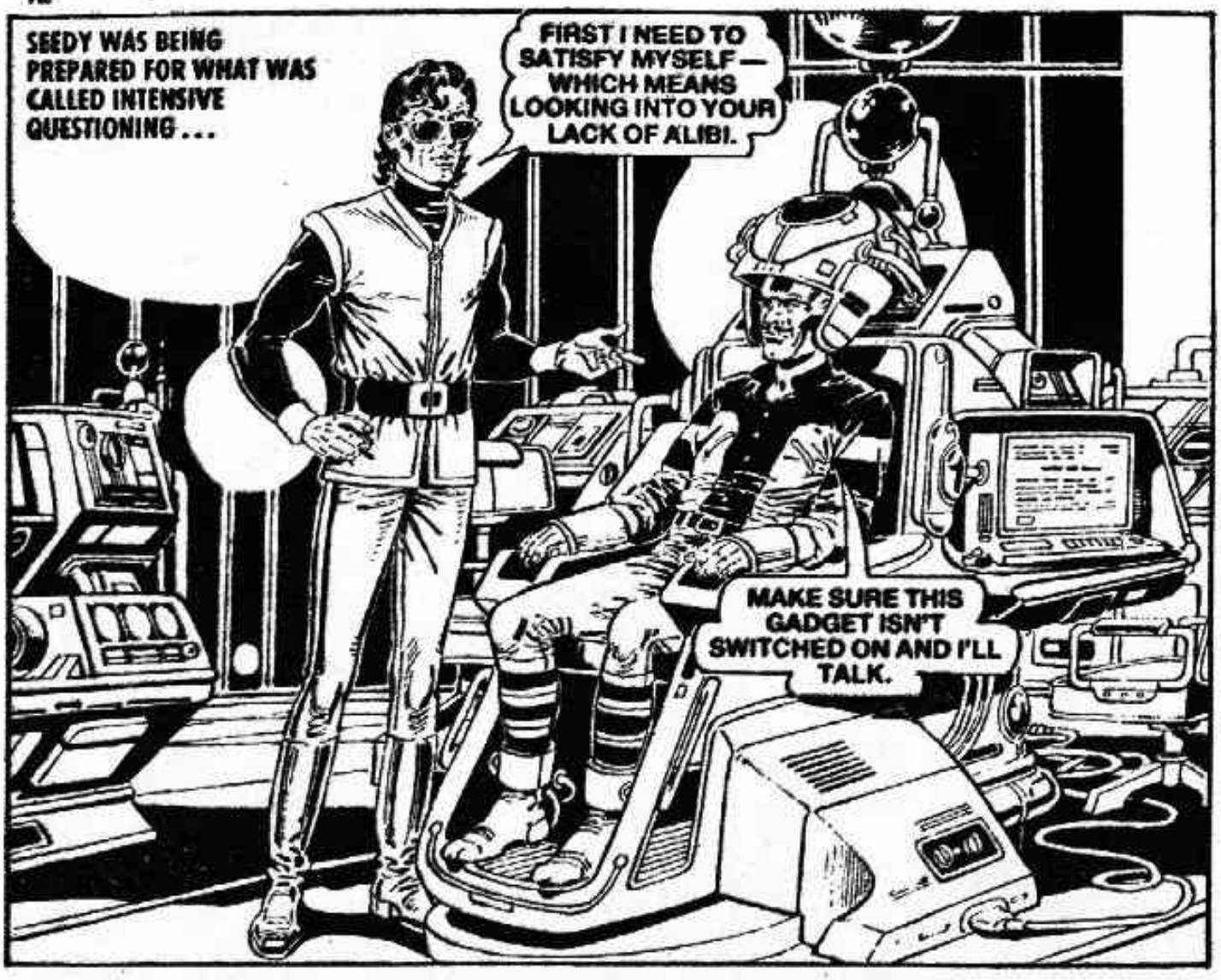
HAWKWUD AND SLATZ, SUPERCOP AND HIS SIDEKICK, WERE THE ACE INVESTIGATORS OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT
AH, KAYN . . .
SLATZ WAS A STRONG-ARM FOR HAWKWUD, THE THINKER OF THE PAIR. IN FACT, HAWKWUD WAS DESIGNED FOR THINKING — AN ANDROID WITH A BIOLOGICAL BODY AND AN ELECTRONIC INTELLIGENCE BASED ON A NEURISTOR SYSTEM THAT PUT HIS IQ UP IN THE CLOUDS. MAKING HAWKWUD PROVED SO COSTLY THE DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN ABLE TO AFFORD ONLY ONE OF HIM, BUT THAT ONE HAD BECOME A LEGEND IN THE CAUSE OF FIGHTING CRIME . . .

I'M A RESPECTABLE PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR. YOU CAN CHECK MY I.D. WITH THE NEW MOSCOW DATABASE.
ALL IN GOOD TIME, SIR. I'M SURE YOU WON'T OBJECT TO COMING ALONG TO THE STATION TO HELP WITH OUR ENQUIRIES.
POLICE

THE STATION WAS NEW MOSCOW CENTRAL . . . WHERE I HAD MY I.D. AND BRAIN-WAVE PATTERN CHECKED BEFORE BEING LOCKED AWAY FOR THE NIGHT . . .
NEW MOSCOW
P-3

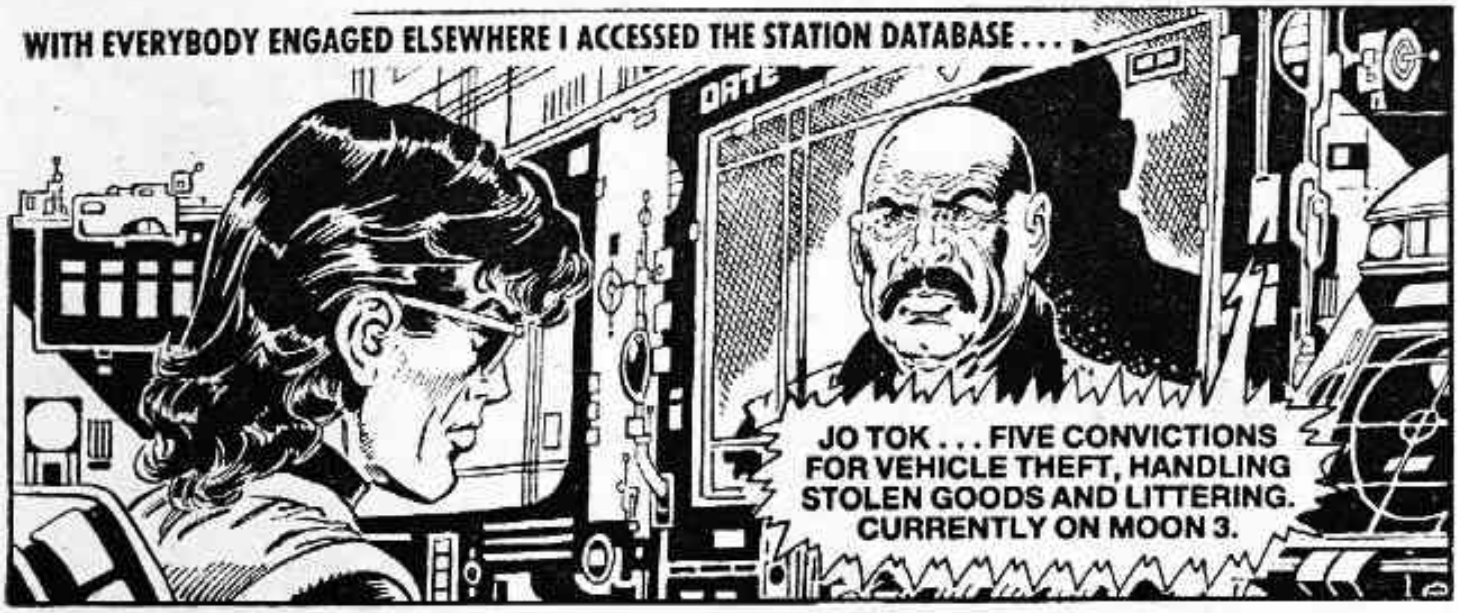

THE REASON SEEDY ALABLOK SAW ME WAS TO HIRE MY SERVICES TO PROVE HIS INNOCENCE.
THE CRIMINAL MIND HAS A TENDENCY TO DELUSIONS, KAYN. HIS GUILT IS DEFINITE AND WILL BE SO ESTABLISHED BY MY INVESTIGATION.

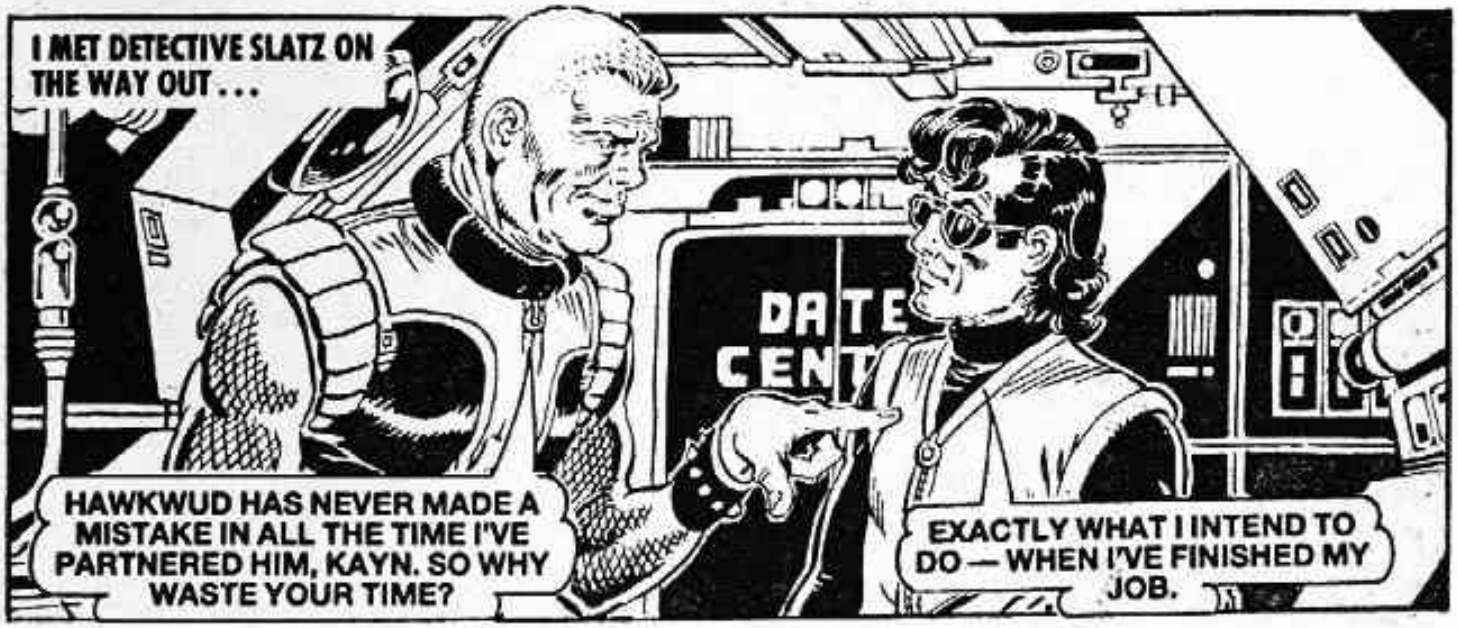
I'M NOT SO SURE . . . I'M TAKING THIS CASE AND WOULD LIKE TO SEE MY CLIENT.
BY ALL MEANS, KAYN.


SEEDY WAS BEING PREPARED FOR WHAT WAS CALLED INTENSIVE QUESTIONING . . .
FIRST I NEED TO SATISFY MYSELF — WHICH MEANS LOOKING INTO YOUR LACK OF ALIBI.
MAKE SURE THIS GADGET ISN'T SWITCHED ON AND I'LL TALK.

SEEDY EXPLAINED WHY HE DIDN'T HAVE AN ALIBI —
JO TOK AND ME WERE FIXING THIS HOT LIFERAFT I'D LIFTED OFF A DEEP-SPACE WARSHIP . . .

THEN I LEFT HIM TO THE QUESTIONING . . .
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH THE PROCEEDS OF THE ROBBERY?
FOOTNOTE — THERE WOULDN'T BE MANY ANSWERS FROM A MENTALLY CONDITIONED EX-STAR COP . . .


WITH EVERYBODY ENGAGED ELSEWHERE I ACCESSED THE STATION DATABASE . . .
JO TOK . . . FIVE CONVICTIONS FOR VEHICLE THEFT, HANDLING STOLEN GOODS AND LITTERING. CURRENTLY ON MOON 3.


I MET DETECTIVE SLATZ ON THE WAY OUT . . .
HAWKWUD HAS NEVER MADE A MISTAKE IN ALL THE TIME I'VE PARTNERED HIM, KAYN. SO WHY WASTE YOUR TIME?
EXACTLY WHAT I INTEND TO DO — WHEN I'VE FINISHED MY JOB.

I TOOK A CHEAP SHUTTLE TO MOON 3.
YOU'LL BE WORKING WITHOUT PAY, REJECT! ALABLOK'S CREDIT'S FROZEN AND I'LL MAKE SURE YOU DON'T GET A RELEASE ON IT.
WHY'S HE SO ANGRY IF HE'S SO SURE I'LL BE WASTING MY TIME?
REJECT, I THOUGHT . . . IT WASN'T MY FAULT MY SIGHT ONLY WORKED IN INFRA RED.
MOON 3

MOON PORT WAS WHERE I STARTED TO GET THAT ITCHY FEELING OF WATCHING EYES . . .
HE'S JUST RENTED A BUGGY FOR A SURFACE TRIP. SAYS HE'LL BE OUT FOR TWO DAYS.

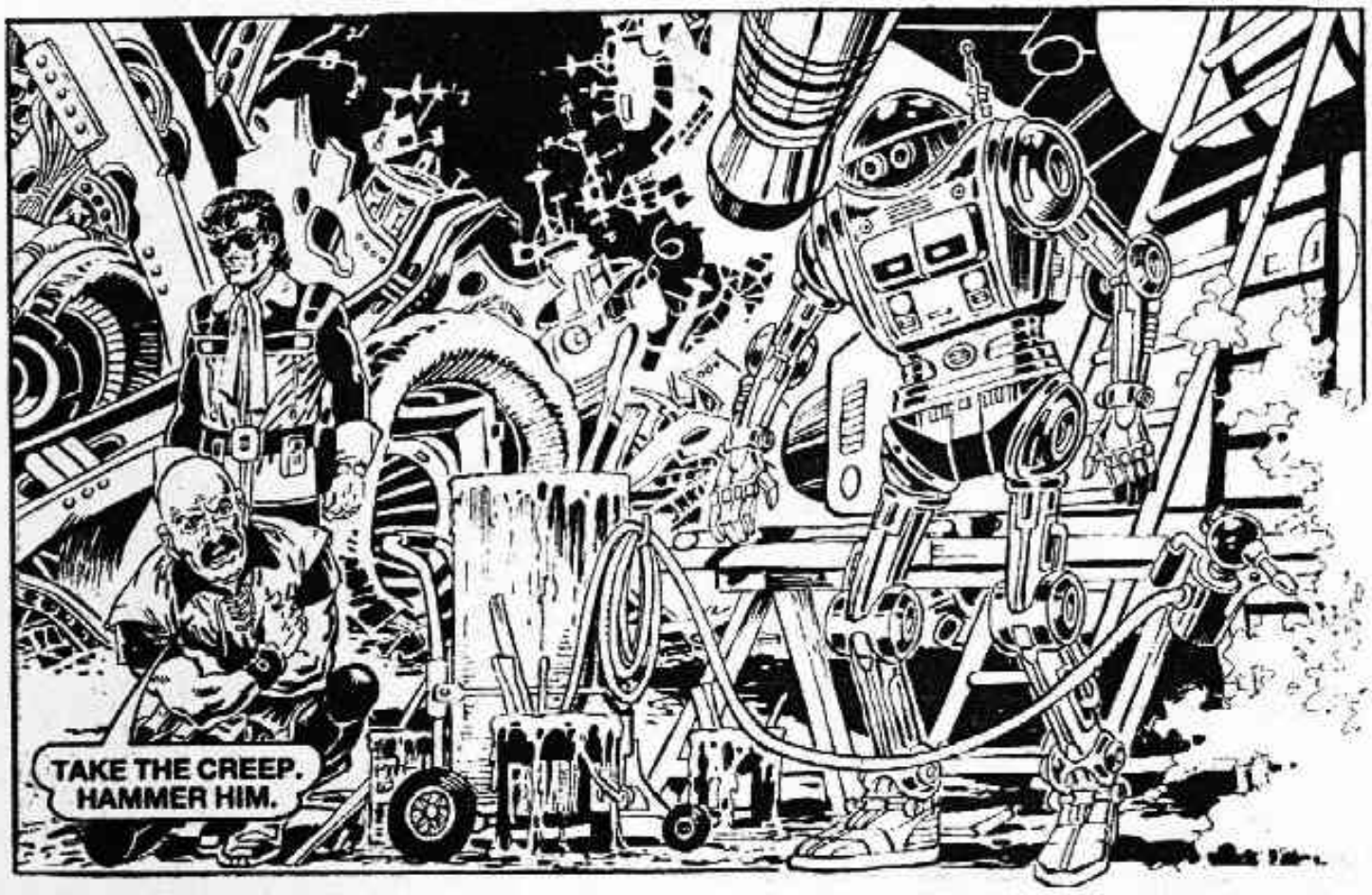
THAT'LL BE JO TOK'S ADDRESS.

JO TOK? I'M IN THE MARKET FOR A SHUTTLE TO BE USED FOR TRADE IN THE BABALON ASTEROID RINGS.
MISTER, COULD BE WE CAN DO BUSINESS. I'LL OPEN THE AIRLOCK FOR YOUR BUGGY.

I DROVE IN . . .
WHAT I HAVE IN MIND IS SOMETHING LIKE THAT SPACESHIP LIFERAFT BROUGHT IN LAST WEEK BY SEEDY ALABLOK.

SEEDY — ER, WHAT DID YOU CALL HIM? NEVER HEARD OF THE GUY.
YOU'VE GOT A BAD MEMORY, JO. SEEDY'S BEEN BRINGING YOU STOLEN SUBLIGHT SHUTTLES FOR THIS PAST YEAR.

JO TURNED OUT TO BE RUSTY AT THE ROUGH STUFF . . .
TOO SLOW WITH THE SPANNER!



I WASN'T WORRIED. AFTER ALL, THE FIRST LAW OF ROBOTICS IS THAT NO ROBOT MAY HARM A BIOLOGICAL SUPERIOR . . .

. . . I SHOULD HAVE BEEN — SOMEBODY SEEMED TO HAVE FIDDLED THE PROGRAMMING OF THAT ROBOMECH . . .

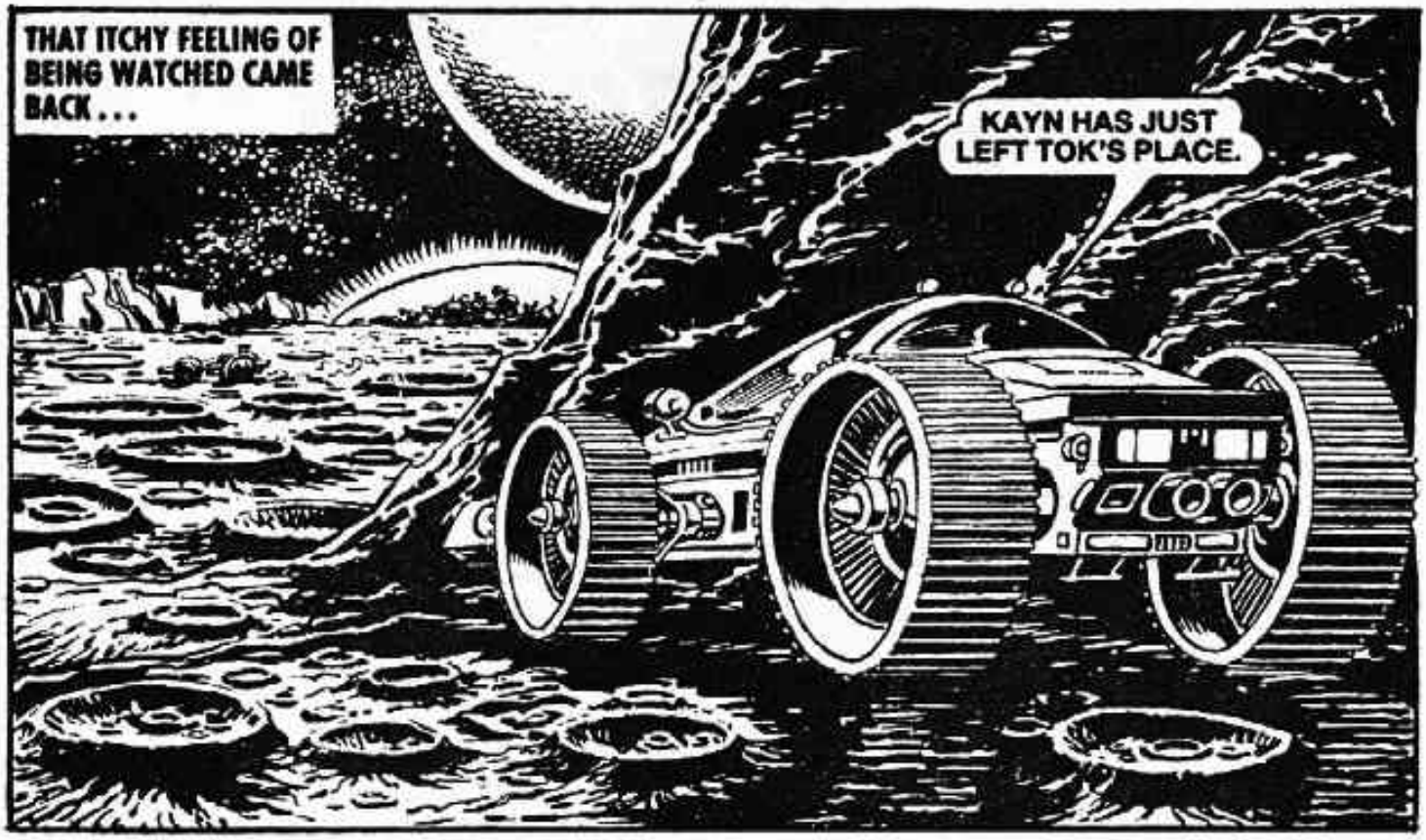
WHOEVER HEARD OF A ROBOT CALLED CLAUD?

GO AWAY, CLAUD. TALK, TOK . . . WHAT WAS SEEDY UP TO A COUPLE OF KLIKS BACK?

NO, DON'T PAINT ME! WE DID A COVER JOB ON A LIFERAFT. HE'S GOT A HIDE-OUT IN THE NORTHERN TUNDRA OF NEW EARTH.

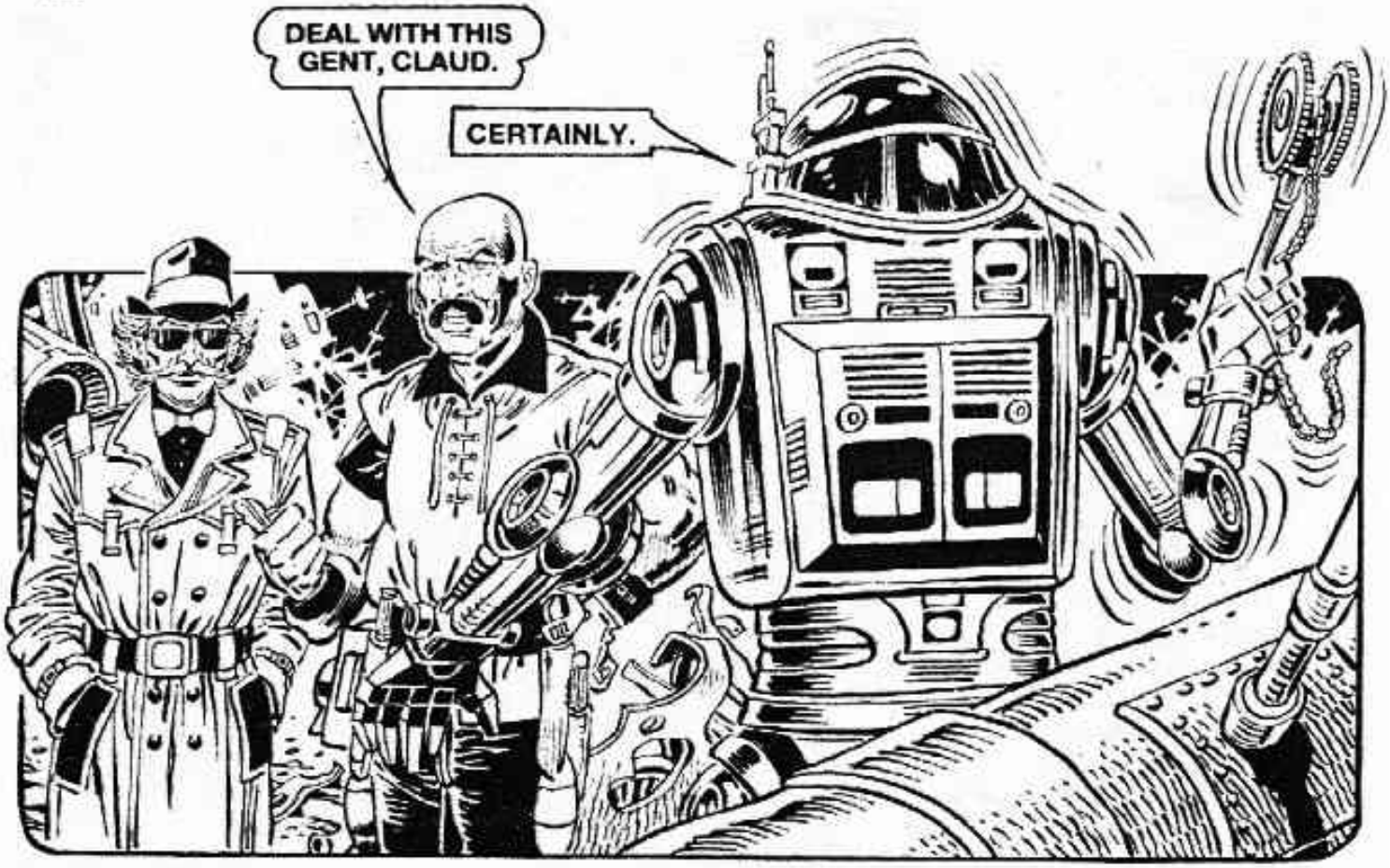
THE LAW AIN'T GOING TO BELIEVE AN ALIBI FROM ANYBODY WITH MY RECORD.
NO . . . BUT I DO! NOW TELL ME MORE ABOUT THIS PLACE WHERE SEEDY HIDES HIS HOT STUFF . . .

JO TOLD ME ALL I NEEDED TO KNOW . . .
JUST STAY STILL, CLAUD. THIS WON'T TAKE LONG.


THAT ITCHY FEELING OF BEING WATCHED CAME BACK . . .
KAYN HAS JUST LEFT TOK'S PLACE.

I CAUGHT THE NEXT FLIGHT BACK TO EARTH—
MOON-3

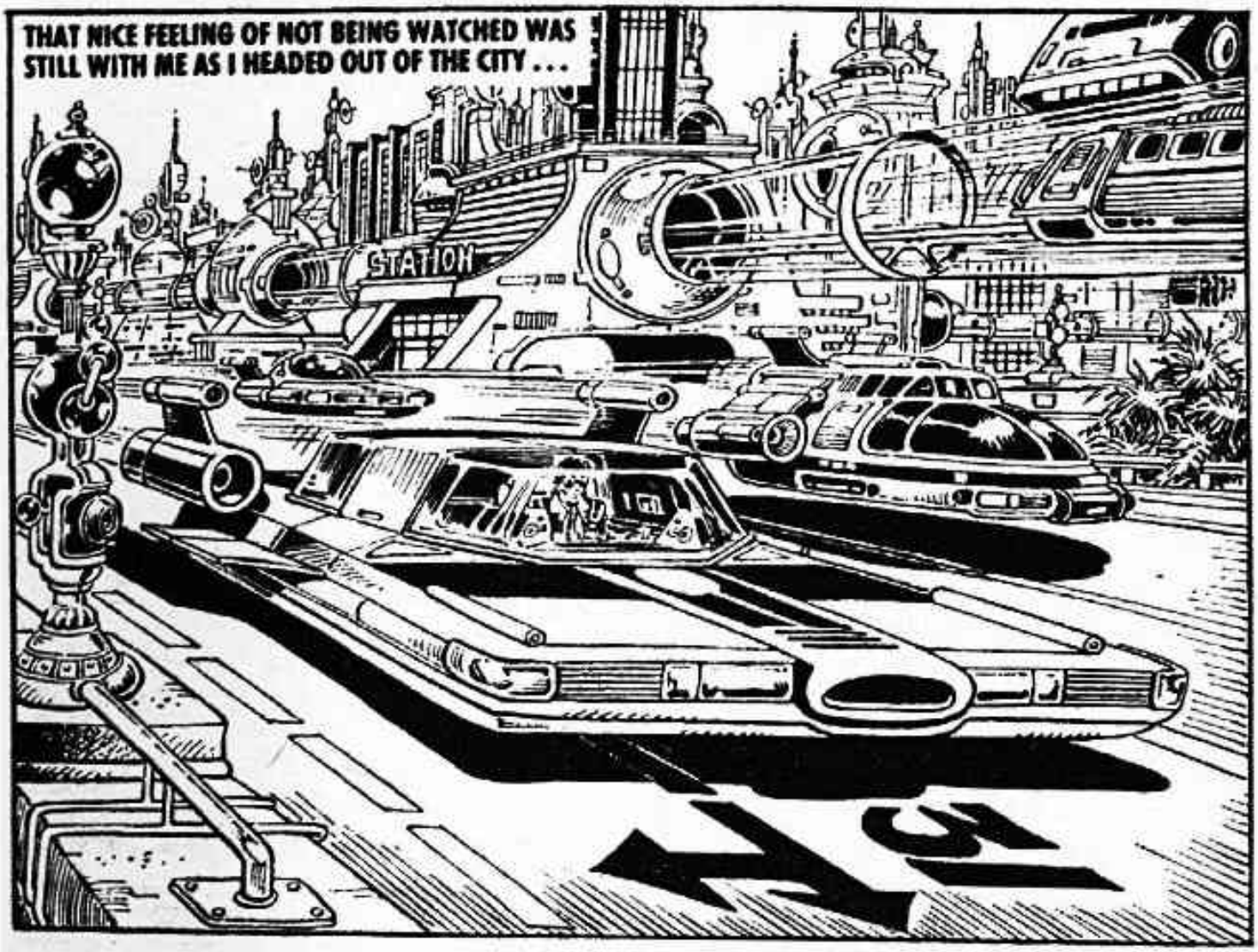
NOT LONG AFTER KAYN HAD LEFT JO TOK.
I WANT TO ASK SOME QUESTIONS.
ANOTHER OF YOU! CLAUD! COME HERE.

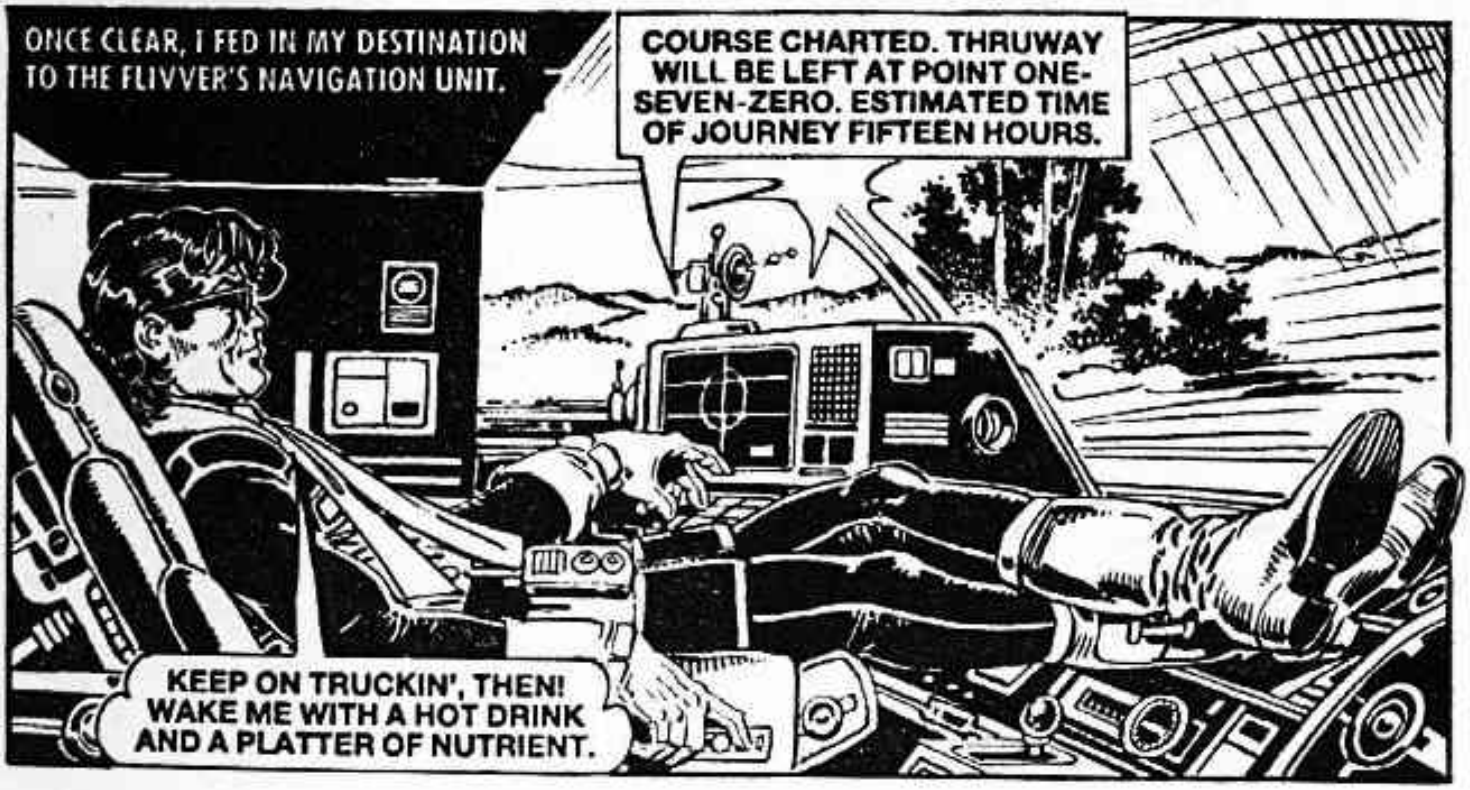

DEAL WITH THIS GENT, CLAUD.
CERTAINLY.

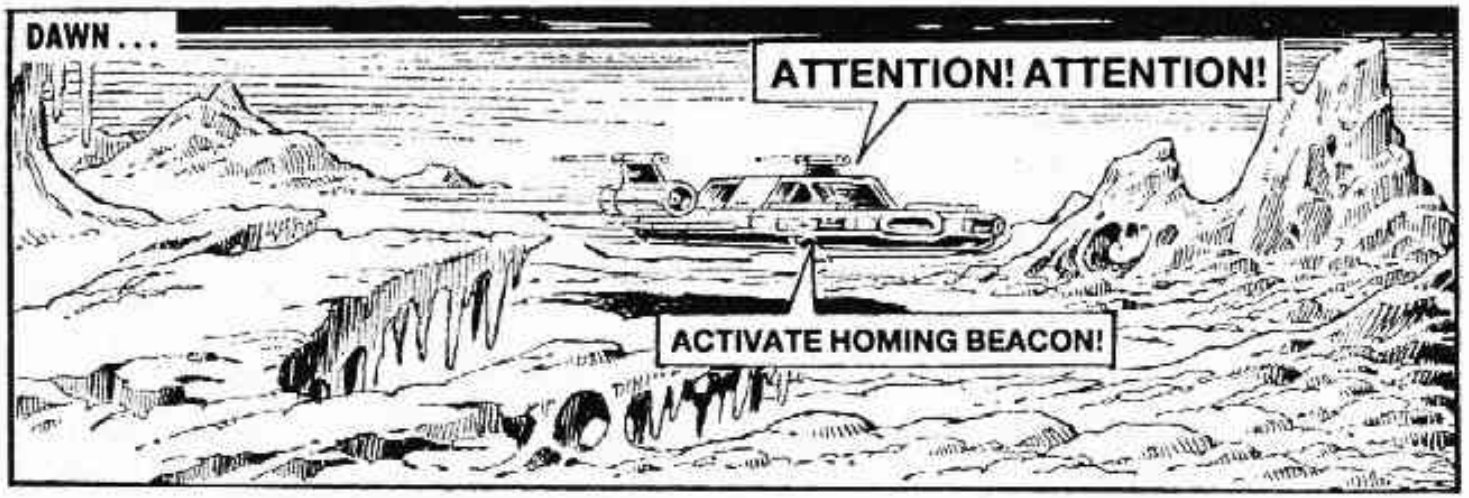
SIT DOWN, CLAUD.

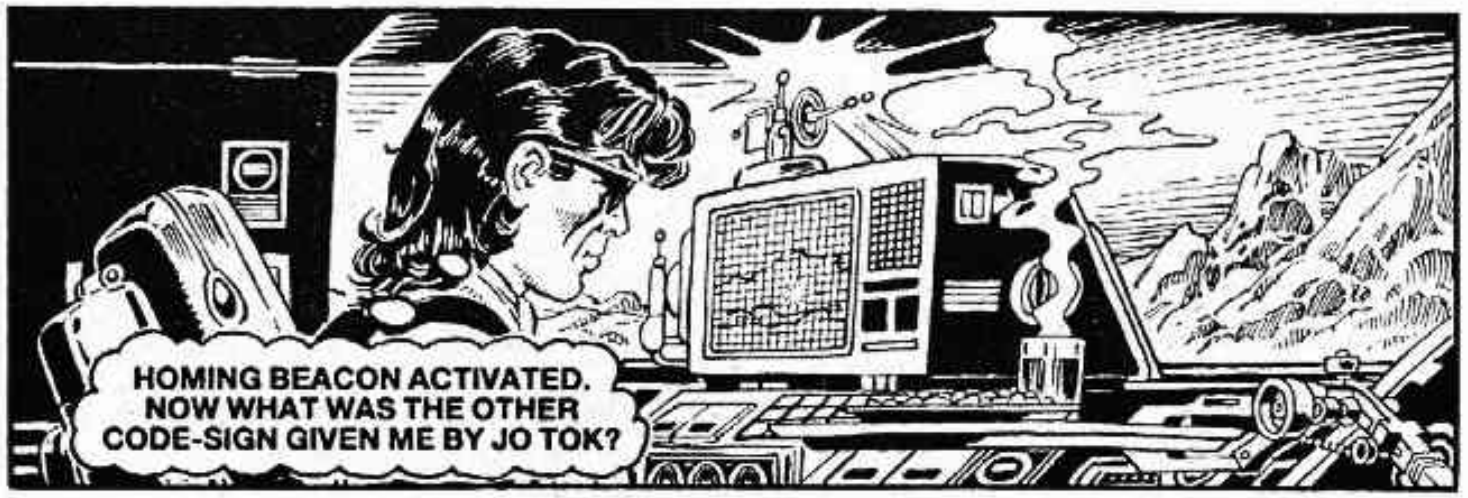
NOW FOR THOSE ANSWERS. WHAT DID YOU TELL KAYN?
HUH — ER, WELL . . .
BACK IN NEW MOSCOW, I USED A PRIVATE ENTRANCE FOR A CALL ON MY OLD FRIEND POP PERZ . . .
WHAT IN THUNDER . . .

HE WON'T HURT YOU, KAYN. I'VE PROGRAMMED HIM TO BE FRIENDLY.
POP PERZ WAS A SORT OF TOYMAKER . . . AMONG OTHER THINGS . . .
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THAT NICE PUSSYCAT YOU USED TO HAVE?
I GREW A BEARD, AND IT LEFT! VERY SUSPICIOUS, THAT CAT!
I NEEDED A LOAN OF THE FLIVVER THAT POP KEPT MOSTLY FOR WASHING, POLISHING AND LOOKING AT . . .
KAYN, ALL I ASK IS YOU TRY NOT TO GET SHOT AT WHILE YOU'RE ACTUALLY IN IT.


THAT NICE FEELING OF NOT BEING WATCHED WAS STILL WITH ME AS I HEADED OUT OF THE CITY . . .
STATION


ONCE CLEAR, I FED IN MY DESTINATION TO THE FLIVVER'S NAVIGATION UNIT.
COURSE CHARTED. THRUWAY WILL BE LEFT AT POINT ONE-SEVEN-ZERO. ESTIMATED TIME OF JOURNEY FIFTEEN HOURS.
KEEP ON TRUCKIN', THEN! WAKE ME WITH A HOT DRINK AND A PLATTER OF NUTRIENT.


DAWN . . .
ATTENTION! ATTENTION!
ACTIVATE HOMING BEACON!


HOMING BEACON ACTIVATED. NOW WHAT WAS THE OTHER CODE-SIGN GIVEN ME BY JO TOK?

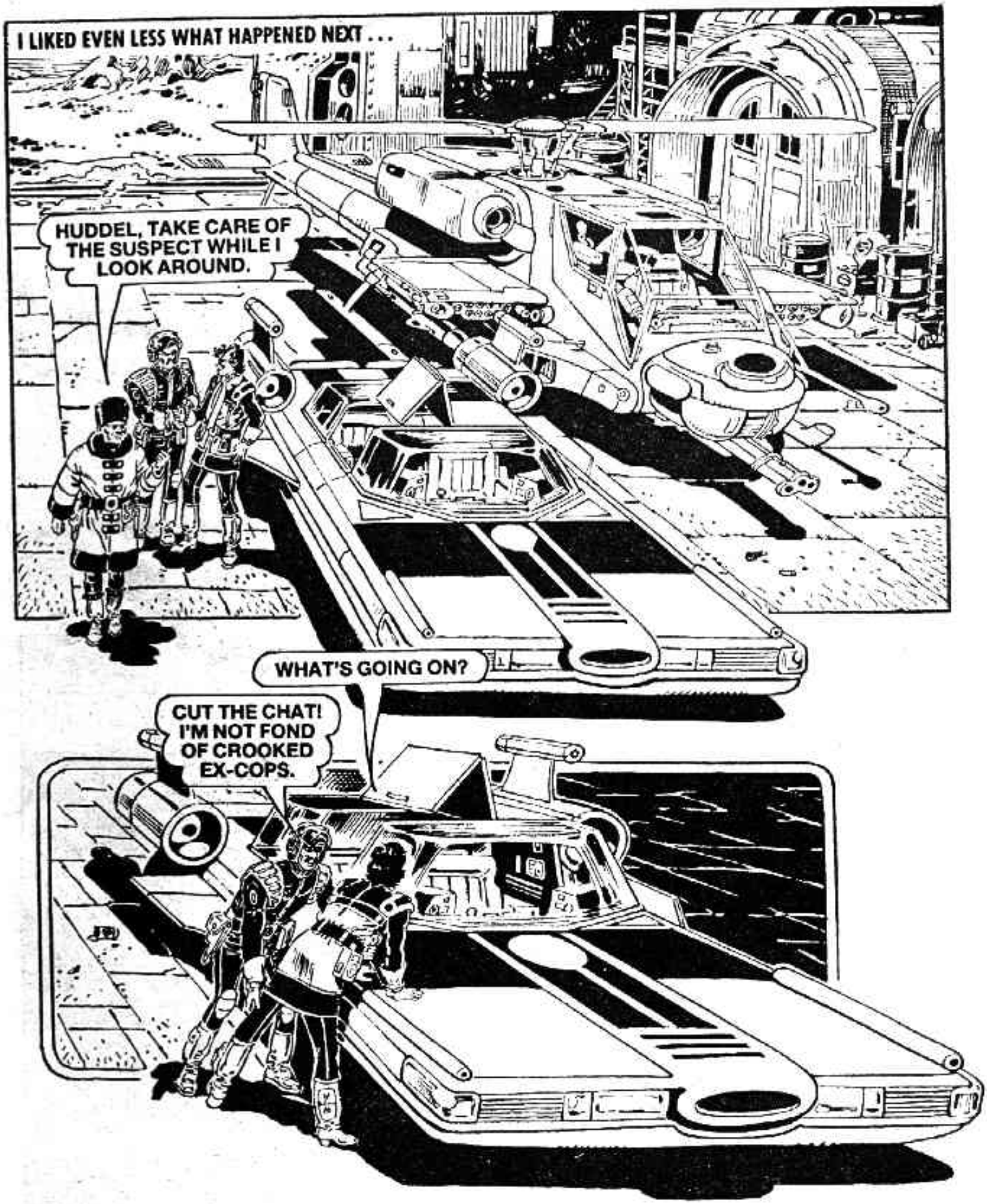
THE SIGNAL OPENED SEEDY'S SECRET GARAGE FOR STOLEN TRANSPORT . . .

ONE LIFERAFT LIFTED OFF A DEEP-SPACE SHIP! I'M FINALLY SATISFIED SEEDY WASN'T IN ON THAT MAGRUX ROBBERY.
30 gas

I TURNED OVER SEEDY'S LIVING QUARTERS . . .
ONE MESOM-BLASTER! A GUILTY MAN WOULD HARDLY LEAVE SUCH AN ILLEGAL ITEM OF HARDWARE LAYING AROUND.

I WAS INTERRUPTED BY A VID-UNIT COMING ON—
KAYN, WE KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE.
DETECTIVE SLATZ! HOW DID HE GET HERE?

WE'RE COMING IN, KAYN. BE SMART AND DON'T TRY ANY TRICKS.
I DIDN'T LIKE THE WAY HE WAS TALKING.


I LIKED EVEN LESS WHAT HAPPENED NEXT . . .
HUDDEL, TAKE CARE OF THE SUSPECT WHILE I LOOK AROUND.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
CUT THE CHAT! I'M NOT FOND OF CROOKED EX-COPS.

BRING HIM HERE, HUDDEL. I NEED YOU AS A WITNESS.
HE MUST HAVE FOUND THAT BLASTER.
POLICE

SLATZ HAD FOUND SOMETHING ELSE...
ONE INGOT OF PURE MAGRUX.
FLOUR
THAT WASN'T THERE WHEN I LOOKED IN THAT LOCKER A FEW MINUTES AGO.

DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO CUT THE CHAT?
PUT THE BRACELETS ON HIM, HUDDEL. I'VE GOT A CALL TO MAKE.

SLATZ MADE CONTACT WITH HAWKWUD . . .
THAT ANONYMOUS TIP-OFF TURNED UP TRUMPS! WE PICKED UP KAYN AND SOME OF THE STOLEN BULLION.

THERE ARE TIMES WHEN IT'S DIFFICULT TO STAY COOL . . .
IT'S LIKE I SAID ALL ALONG — KAYN IS IN IT UP TO HIS EARS WITH SEEDY ALABLOK.
POLICE

I GAVE UP TRYING . . .

YOU TWO STAY VERY STILL. I'VE HAD AS MUCH OF THIS AS I MEAN TO TAKE.

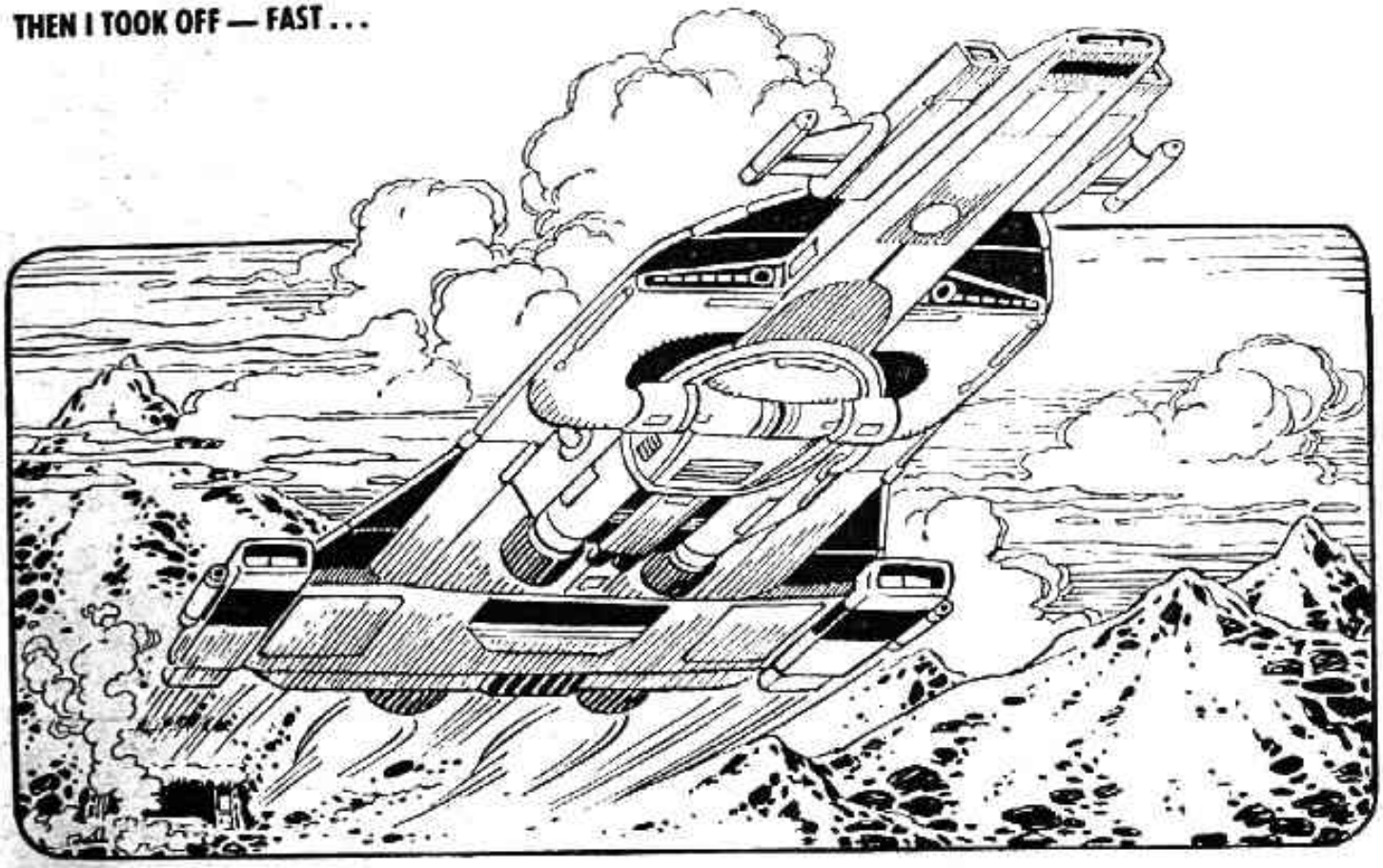
LAY DOWN THE WEAPON, KAYN. YOU KNOW YOU ARE NOT GOING TO BLAST TWO OFFICERS WITH MYSELF AS A WITNESS.
YOU HAVE A POINT, HAWKWUD.

INSTEAD, I DUMPED A LOAD OF PERMA-FROSTED DIRT ON THE PAIR . . .

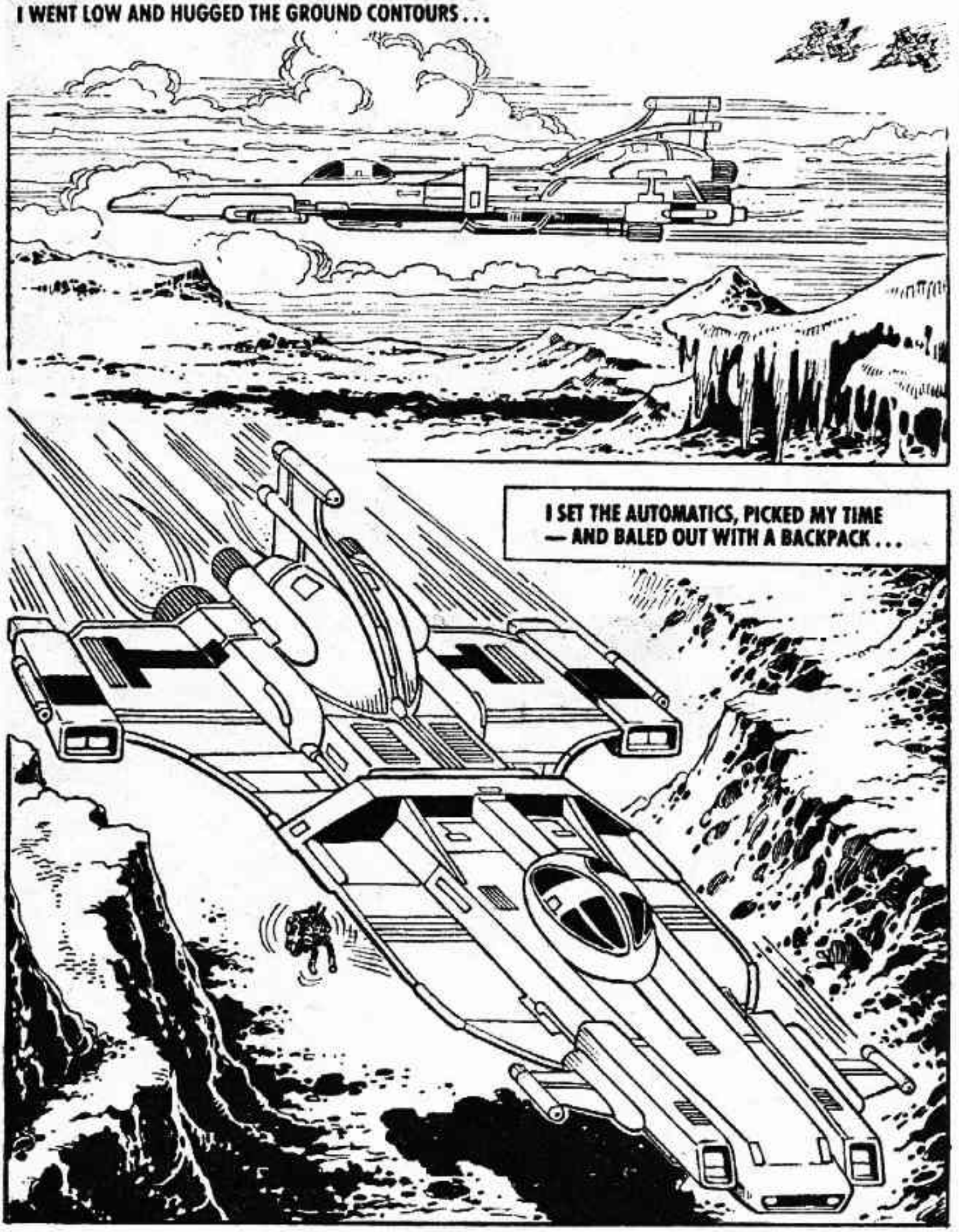
NOT GOING TO GET FAR IN POP'S FLIVVER. I'D BETTER TAKE THE HOT LIFERAFT.

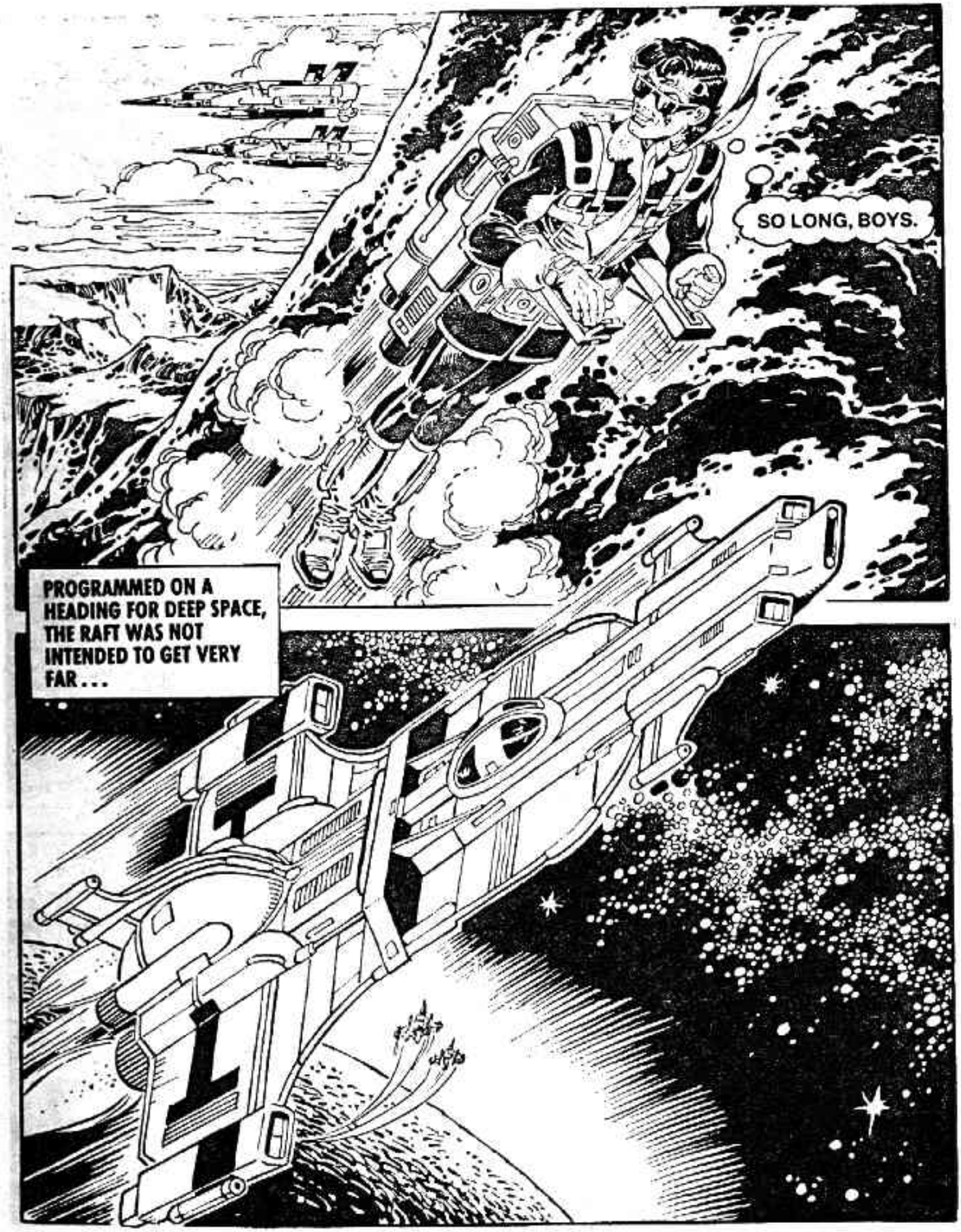
BUT FIRST I TOOK CARE OF THE POLICE CHOPPER . . .

THEN I TOOK OFF — FAST . . .



IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE THE SCANNER PICKED THEM UP . . . TWO SLEEK POLICE PATROL CRAFT OF THE TYPE I USED TO PILOT MYSELF BACK IN THE SERVICE . . .


I WENT LOW AND HUGGED THE GROUND CONTOURS . . .
I SET THE AUTOMATICS, PICKED MY TIME — AND BALED OUT WITH A BACKPACK . . .


SO LONG, BOYS.
PROGRAMMED ON A HEADING FOR DEEP SPACE, THE RAFT WAS NOT INTENDED TO GET VERY FAR . . .

A DOCTORED MESOM BLASTER CAN CAUSE A NASTY REACTION IN A PARTICLE-DRIVE UNIT . . .
SUSPECT CRAFT HAS EXPLODED.
AIR COP
I DUMPED THE BACKPACK NEAR A THRUWAY HALT . . .
PUBLIC VDU
WAY INN
POP, I SUGGEST YOU MAKE AN IMMEDIATE REPORT TO THE POLICE ABOUT YOUR FLIVVER BEING STOLEN BY SOME UNIDENTIFIED PERSON.
THEN I FOUND A TRANSPORT CAFE—
WHICH ONE OF YOU TRUCKERS IS JOCKEYING THAT DOUBLE RIG LABELLED FOR NEW MOSCOW?
THAT'S ME, BUD. WHAT'S IT TO YOU?

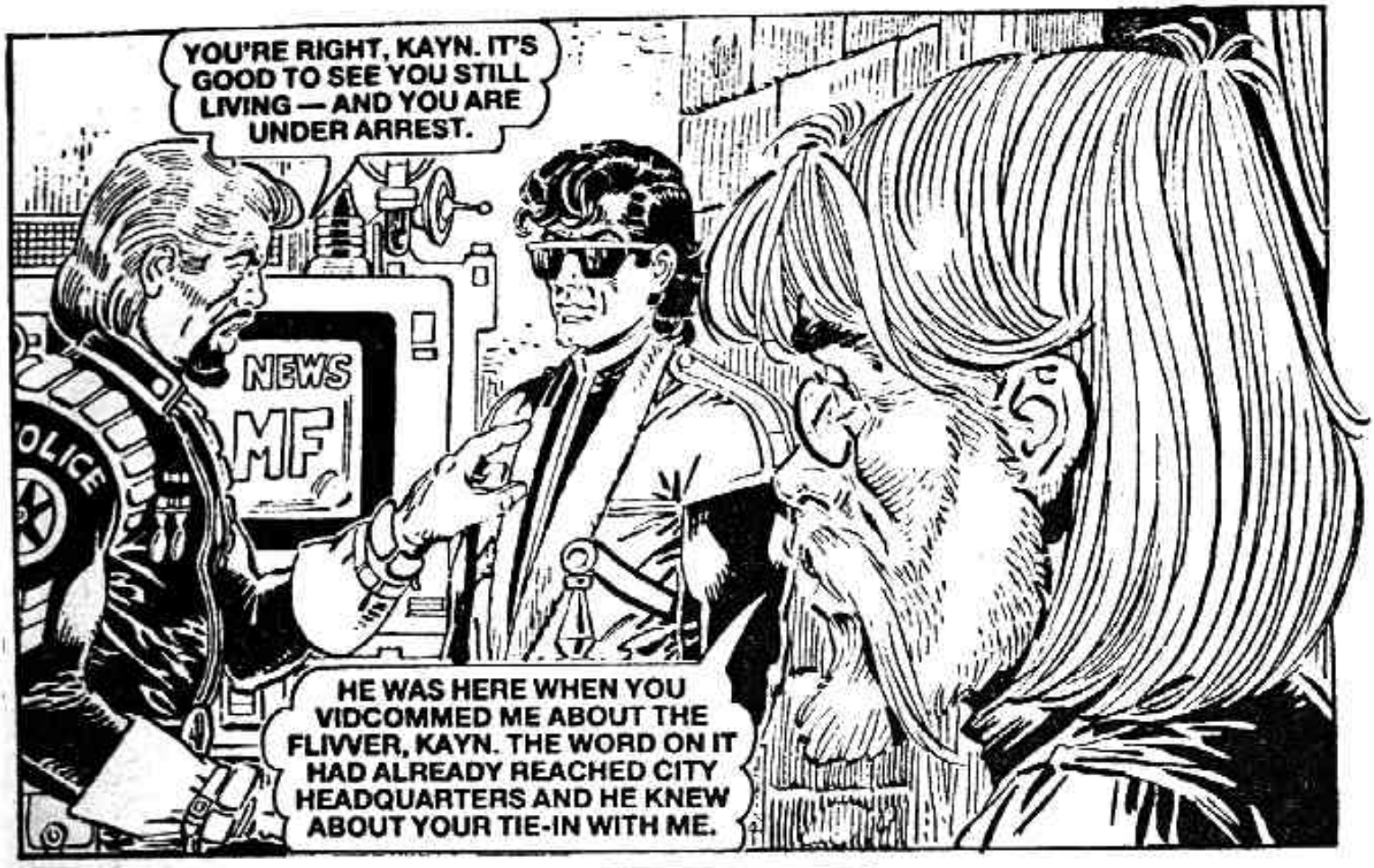
I JUST MADE MYSELF A BET THAT YOU WOULDN'T GIVE ME A RIDE FOR FIFTY CREDITS.
REMOVALS
LOOKS LIKE YOU LOSE, FRIEND. HAND OVER.

NEXT DAY I WAS DROPPED OFF IN THE CITY . . .
POLICE

SHOVE OFF! I DON'T TRUST CROCODILES EVEN WHEN THEY PURR.
I MADE ANOTHER USE OF POP'S PRIVATE ENTRANCE . . .

POP WAS TAKING IN A NEWS FLASH . . .
THE AUTHORITIES BELIEVE THAT THE DEATH IN SPACE OF MIKAL R. KAYN IS CONNECTED WITH THE RECENT ROBBERY OF THE MAGRUX SHIPMENT.

. . . WITH COMPANY . . .
KAYN, YOU ARE UNDER ARREST.
MARTY, IS THAT ANY WAY TO GREET AN OLD FRIEND BACK FROM THE DEAD?


YOU'RE RIGHT, KAYN. IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU STILL LIVING — AND YOU ARE UNDER ARREST.
NEWS
MF
HE WAS HERE WHEN YOU VIDCOMMED ME ABOUT THE FLIVVER, KAYN. THE WORD ON IT HAD ALREADY REACHED CITY HEADQUARTERS AND HE KNEW ABOUT YOUR TIE-IN WITH ME.

LUCKILY FOR ME, GOOD OLD MARTY ALWAYS LISTENED, ESPECIALLY WHEN HOLDING A GLASS OF BUBBLE-JUICE...
PLANTED EVIDENCE? HAWKWUD JUST IS NOT CAPABLE OF IT.
MAYBE NOT, BUT SLATZ IS. PARTNER, I NEED TIME TO FIND THE REAL THIEVES AND CLEAR SEEDY.

YOU HAVE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, KAYN. MEANWHILE I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU!
THANKS, MARTY — AND MEANWHILE YOU MIGHT TRY YOUR OWN CHECKING. THIS MAY NOT BE THE FIRST EVIDENCE PLANTED BY THAT CREEP SLATZ.
POLICE

MARTY LEFT . . . AND I ENLISTED POP'S HELP . . .
THAT MAGRUX BAR HAS TO BE TRADED — WHICH MEANS ZET CAMBOS — HE'S THE ONLY FENCE BIG ENOUGH TO HANDLE THE BULLION. POP, CAN YOU ACCESS THE POLICE DATABASE?
WHY ASK? YOU KNOW I'VE BEEN DOING IT FOR YEARS.

NO CRIMINAL RECORD. ONLY THE DETAILS THE LAW KEEPS ON ANY HONEST BUSINESS PERSON.
WHAT I WANT IS PARTICULARS OF ANY DETAILS OF HIS RESIDENCE.

POP RAN A PRINT-OUT . . .
HIS OWN ISLAND ON GRAND LAKE ABOVE SURFACE APPROACH COVERED BY SCANNER AND UNDERWATER BUGGED BY ACCOUSTIC AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE.
WHICH MEANS THAT EVEN A PASSING FISH HAS TO BE IDENTIFIED. HUM I WONDER . . .

POP, THERE MAY BE A WAY OF FOOLING THE GADGETRY AND CREATING A DIVERSION.

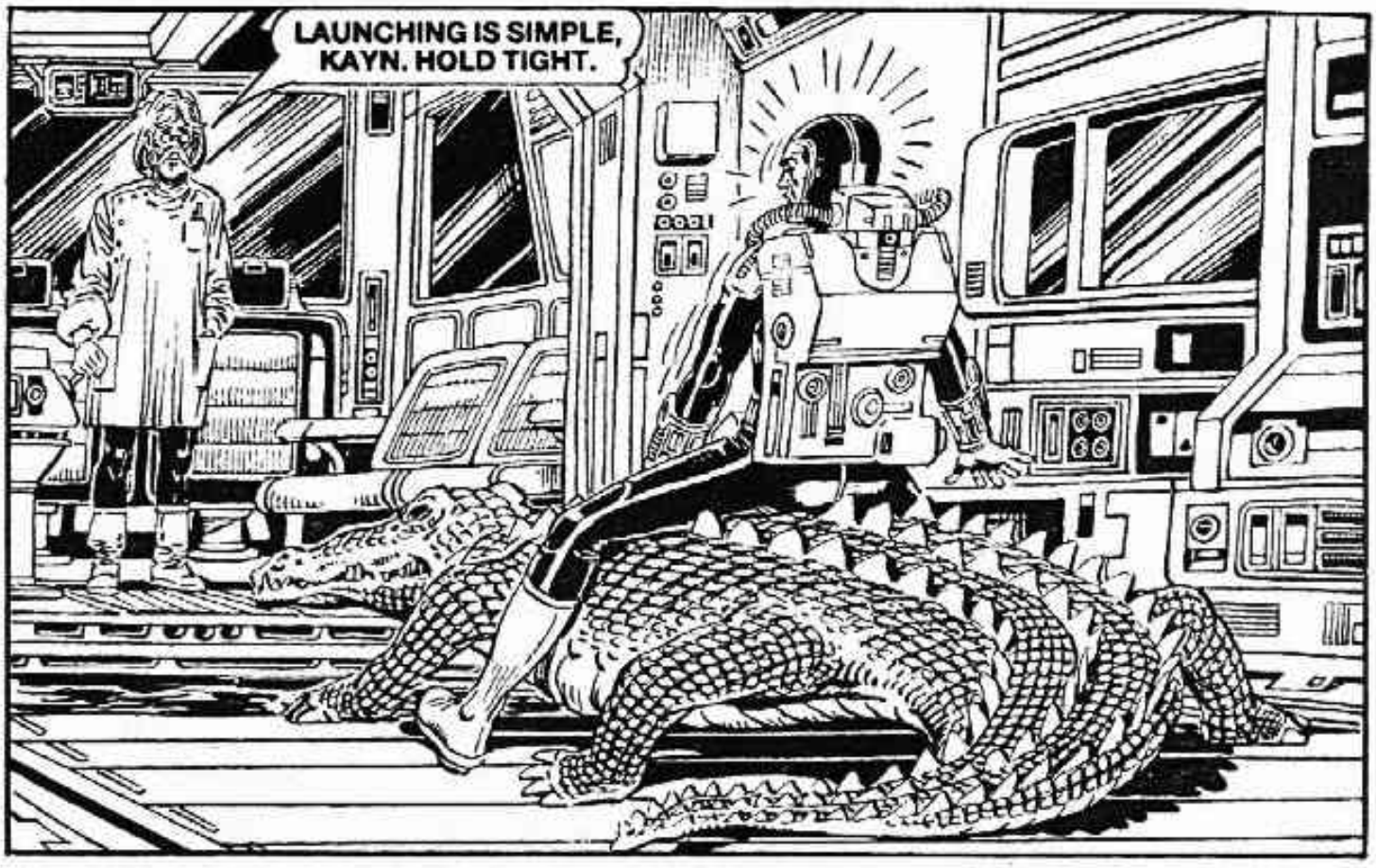
THAT NIGHT—
ALL RIGHT, POP, I NEED YOU ALONG FOR THE TECHNICAL STUFF, BUT AFTER THAT YOU DO A FAST SPLIT — UNDERSTAND?

THE SUBWAY PORTAL TO CAMBOS ISLAND. THIS SPOT WILL DO US.

POP BACKED HIS HOVTRUCK TO THE EDGE OF THE LAKE . . .

. . . WHILE I GOT CHANGED FOR WET WORK . . .
NO, POP, I DON'T NEED INFRA-RED GOGGLES.
I WAS FORGETTING. YOUR PEEPERS ARE INFRA-RED ALREADY.

POP'S SCALY PET HAD BEEN BROUGHT ALONG . . .
DUAL PROCESSING THAT SHOULD PRODUCE A CROC WITH A SPLIT PERSONALITY PROBLEM — NICE AND NOT NICE.
IF IT WORKS, POP. NOW HOW DO WE GET THE BRUTE INTO THE LAKE?


LAUNCHING IS SIMPLE, KAYN. HOLD TIGHT.

SPLASH!

SOON I SENSED THE ACOUSTIC SCANS CONVERGING ON ME AND POP'S REPTILE . . .
NEARLY TIME FOR ME TO GET OFF.

NOW YOU CAN SHOW YOUR NASTY SIDE, CHUM.

GRAND LAKE WAS SUDDENLY NOISY . . .
WATER SKITTERS DROPPING DEPTH BOMBS.

POP'S PROGRAMMED CROC BECAME NASTY . . .

BUT IT DIDN'T LAST LONG—

— JUST LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO GET AWAY.
ALARM BEAMS . . . ANOTHER TIME FOR BEING GRATEFUL FOR VISION IN THE INFRA-RED RANGE.

MY DEFICIENT EYES GUIDED ME THROUGH THE INFRA RED PROTECTED AREA, BUT I HAD TO USE MY SHADES TO READ A WRIST PRINT OUT.
COP DATABASE PRINT-OUT — ONE DWELLING BASED ON OLD EARTH PATTERN.

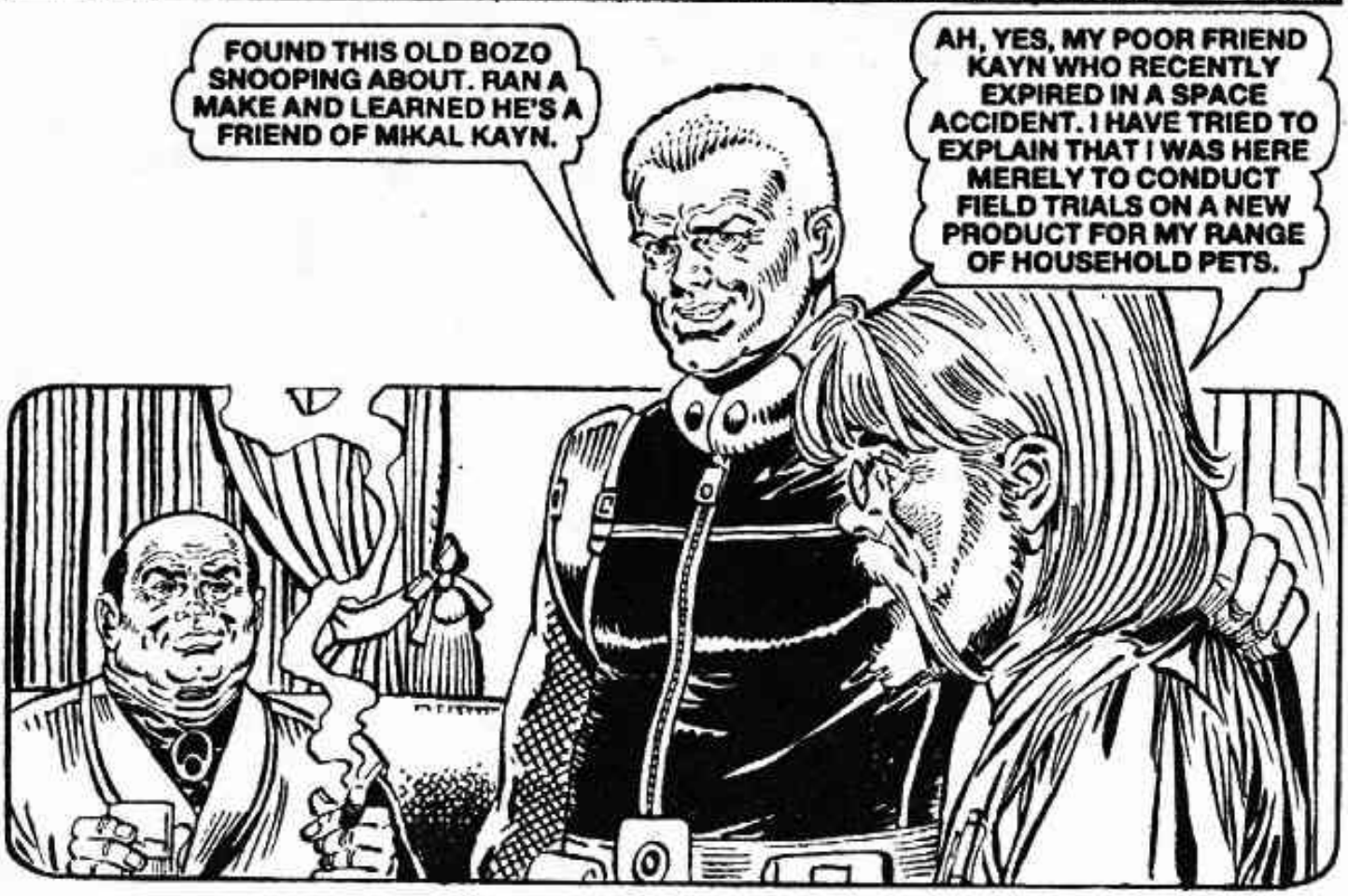
THE WALLS WERE COVERED WITH SOME TYPE OF IMPORTED FUNGUS . . .
THAT'LL BE THE MAIN RESIDENTIAL QUARTERS.

ZET CAMBOS, BIG TIME FENCE WHO'S NEVER BEEN CAUGHT.
WHAT WAS ALL THAT NOISE?

WE ATTACKED A REPLICA OF A SAURIAN LIFE-FORM ONCE COMMON IN TROPICAL PARTS OF OLD EARTH.
MY DURN NEIGHBOURS PAYING ME BACK FOR MY LITTLE JOKE OF DUMPING A SHOAL OF CANNIBAL FISH IN THE LAKE LAST YEAR.

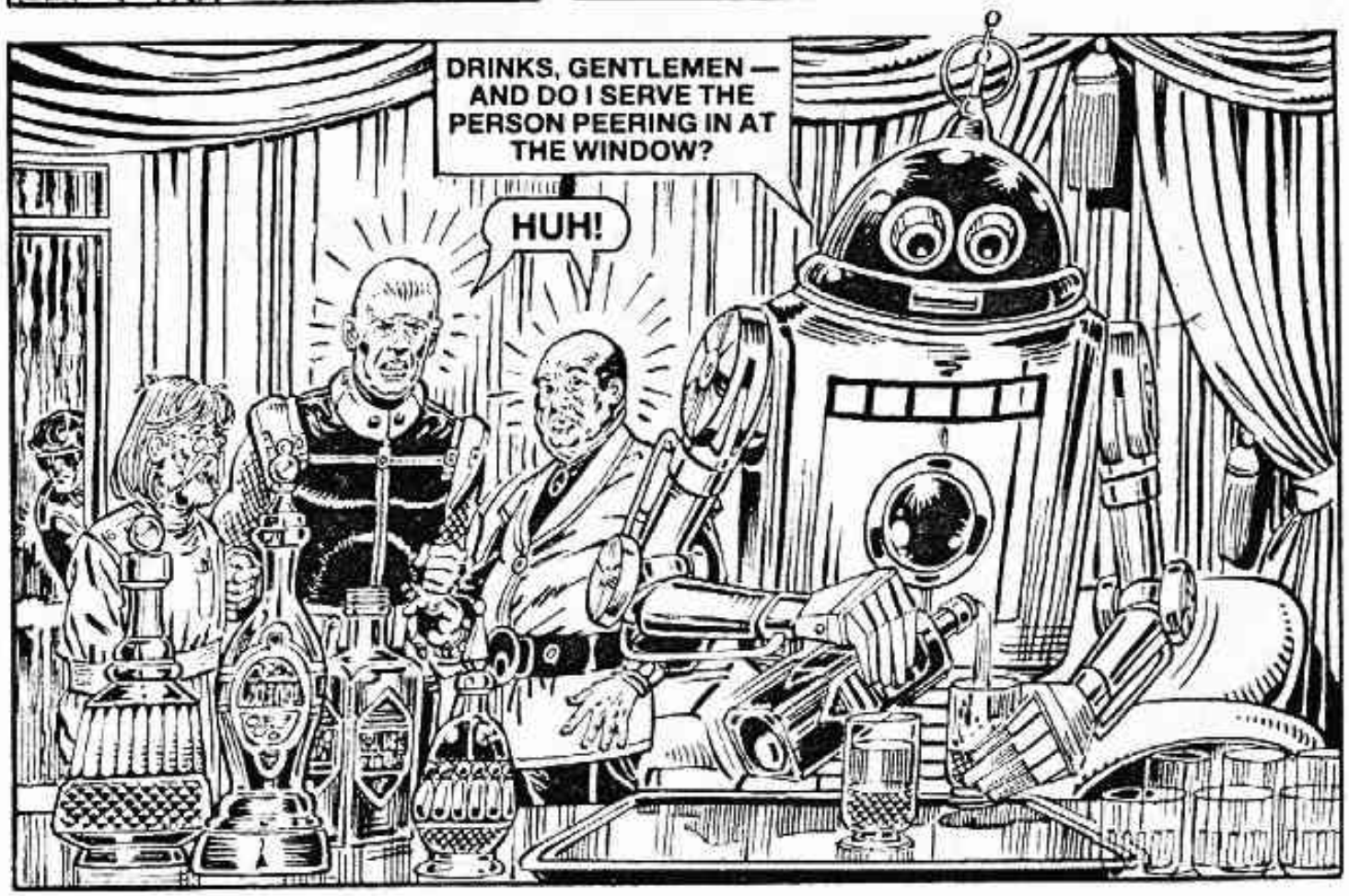
THE TWO VISITORS ADMITTED BY THE SUBWAY PORTAL, SIR!
BUT WHY TWO OF THEM?

THE VISITORS GAVE ME A SHOCK . . .
POP — AND DETECTIVE SLATZ.


FOUND THIS OLD BOZO SNOOPING ABOUT. RAN A MAKE AND LEARNED HE'S A FRIEND OF MIKAL KAYN.
AH, YES, MY POOR FRIEND KAYN WHO RECENTLY EXPIRED IN A SPACE ACCIDENT. I HAVE TRIED TO EXPLAIN THAT I WAS HERE MERELY TO CONDUCT FIELD TRIALS ON A NEW PRODUCT FOR MY RANGE OF HOUSEHOLD PETS.

KAYN ISN'T DEAD. I PUT A TAIL ON HIM AFTER THE RAID ON THE HOLIDAY HOME, AND A HEAT SCAN FROM THOSE PURSUIT SHIPS SHOWED NO ORGANIC LIFE ON THAT LIFERAFT WHEN IT BLEW. SO TALK, OLD MAN — WHERE IS KAYN?
AHHHH!

ZET CAMBOS SOOTHED THE SITUATION BEFORE I COULD MAKE A MOVE . . .
PARTNER, YOU WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT THAT CLOWN KAYN. THERE'S NO WAY HE CAN PASS MY SECURITY ONTO THIS ISLAND.
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT — ONLY KAYN'S A FACTOR WE DIDN'T COUNT ON WHEN THIS JOB WAS SET UP.


DRINKS, GENTLEMEN — AND DO I SERVE THE PERSON PEERING IN AT THE WINDOW?
HUH!

I MOVED — JUST IN TIME . . .
KAYN!

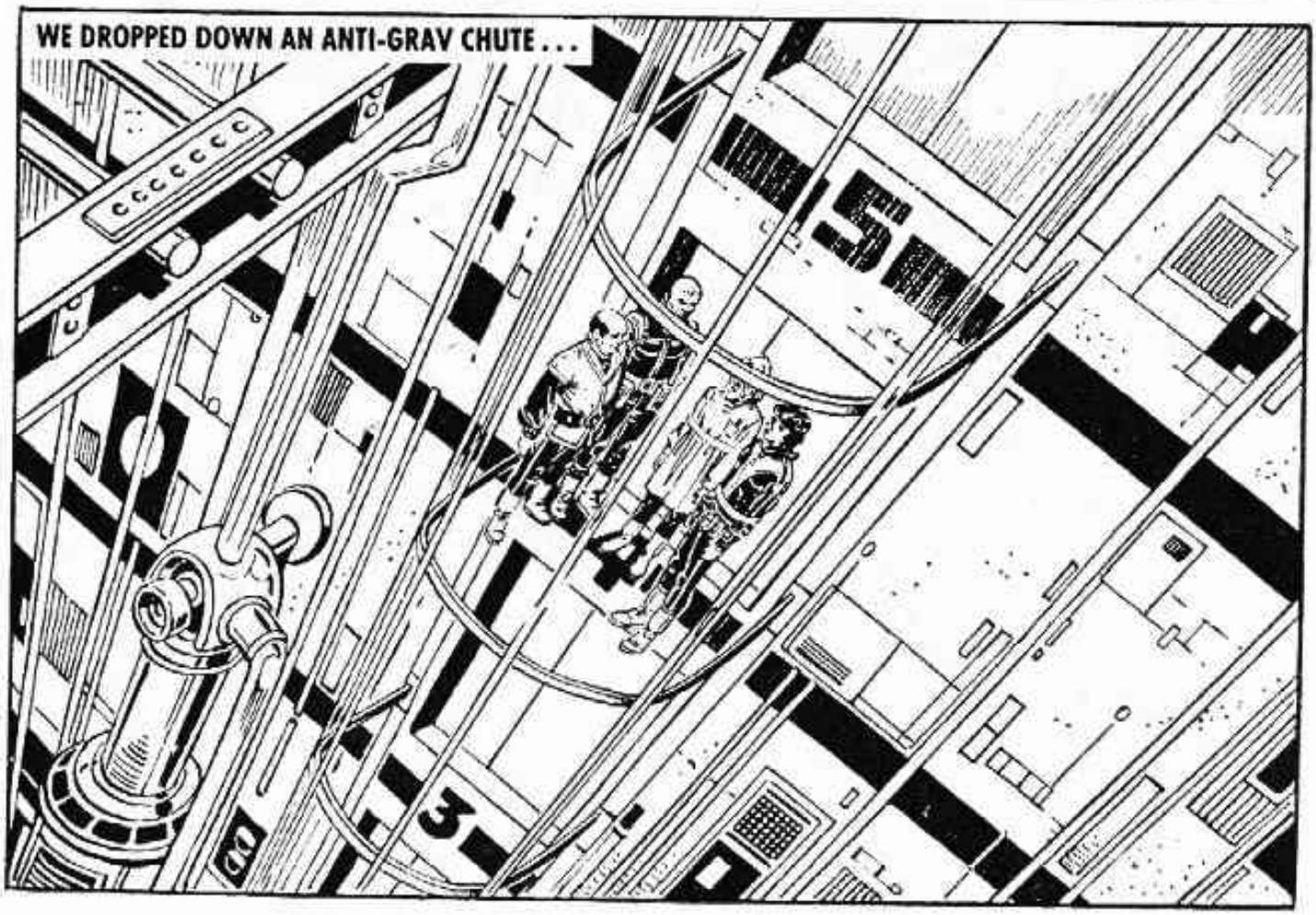
THE FUNGUS . . . COMING UNGLUED.

HEY, KAYN! GIVE UP UNLESS YOU WANT THIS OLD GUY TAKING A LONG DROP.

I'M COMING UP.
A NIGHT OF DISCOVERY, SLATZ. ONE OF THE LEGENDARY TEC TEAM IS JUST A CROOKED COP ON THE MAKE.
KAYN, I MAY HAVE FIDDLED EVIDENCE AND EVEN SET UP THE ODD CAPER, BUT ONLY TO PUT AWAY GENUINE CRIMINALS. ANY LOOT I GET IS A FAIR PAY-OFF FOR RISKING MY NECK.

I WAS CLAMPED . . .
I'LL WAIT HERE, SLATZ. ROUGH STUFF ISN'T THE STYLE OF A BUSINESSPERSON LIKE ME.
PARTNER, THERE'S NO TIME TO FETCH IN ANY OF THE BOYS WE USE. YOU'LL HELP — UNLESS YOU WANT TO TURN INTO A DEAD BUSINESSPERSON.

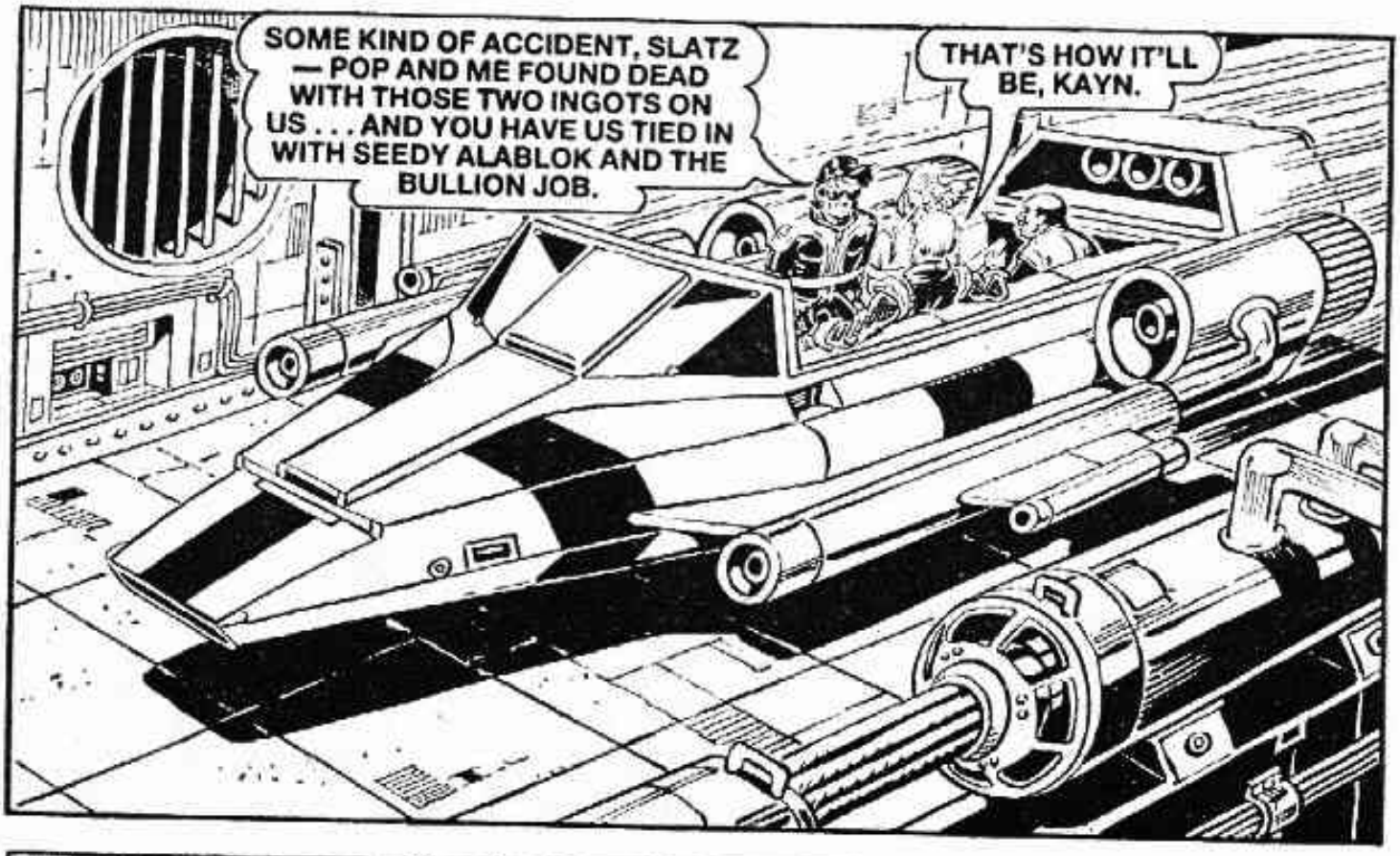
WILL THAT BE ALL, GENTLEMEN?
ANOTHER THING, CAMBOS — WIPE THE MEMORY OF THAT DUMB SERVO-MECH.


WE DROPPED DOWN AN ANTI-GRAV CHUTE . . .

KAYN, YOU ARE ABOUT TO SEE SOMETHING REALLY INTERESTING.
THE WALL IS OPENING.

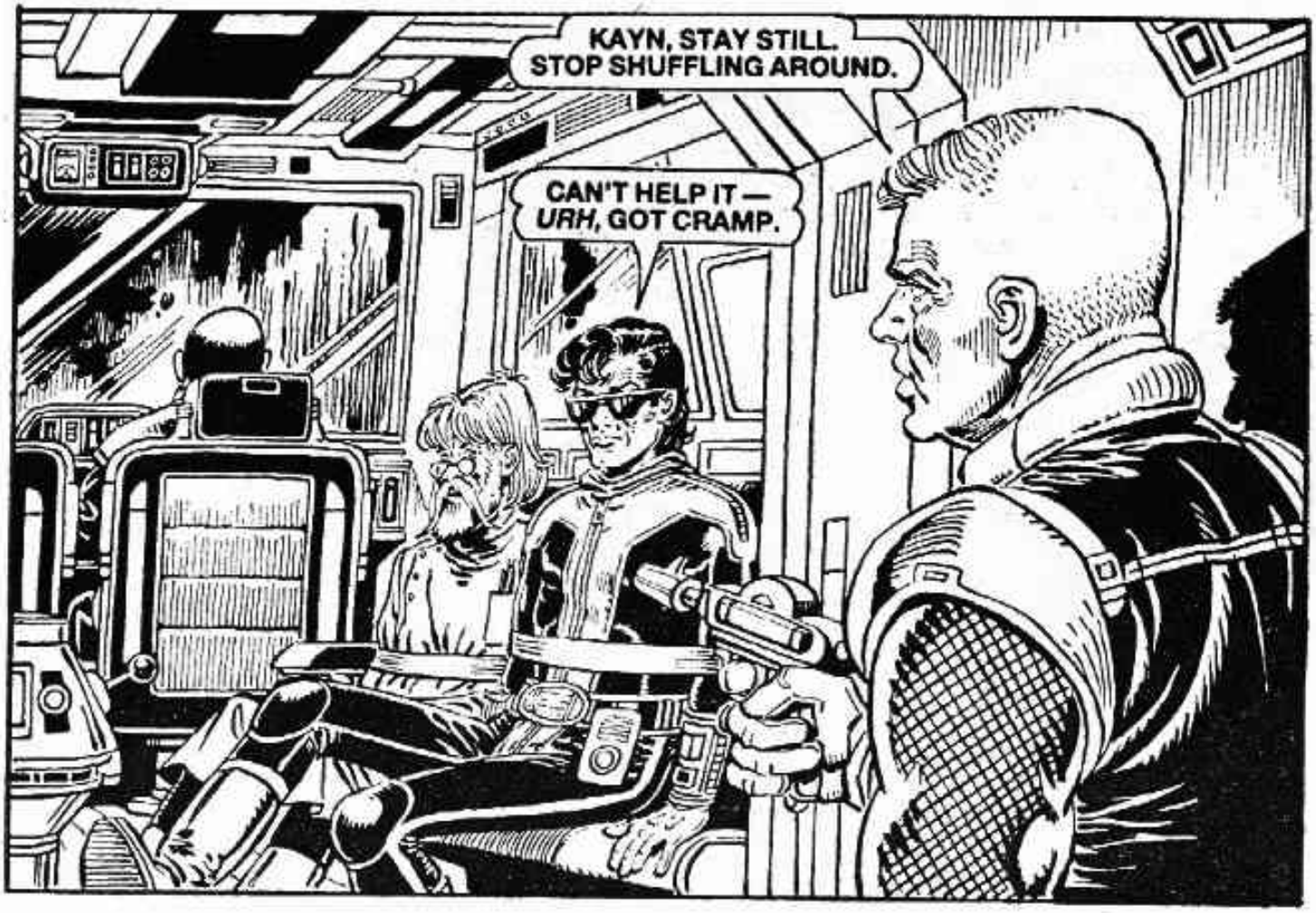
YES, KAYN, THE PURE MAGRUX FROM THE GALACTIC MINING HOIST. I AM MAKING YOU A FREE GIFT OF TWO OF THE INGOTS.

POP AND I WERE HUSTLED TO THE ISLAND'S PRIVATE SUBWAY . . .
I AM TAKING OUT A PARTY. HAVE SECURITY CLEAR THE OUTER PORTAL FOR US.
WILL DO, BOSS.

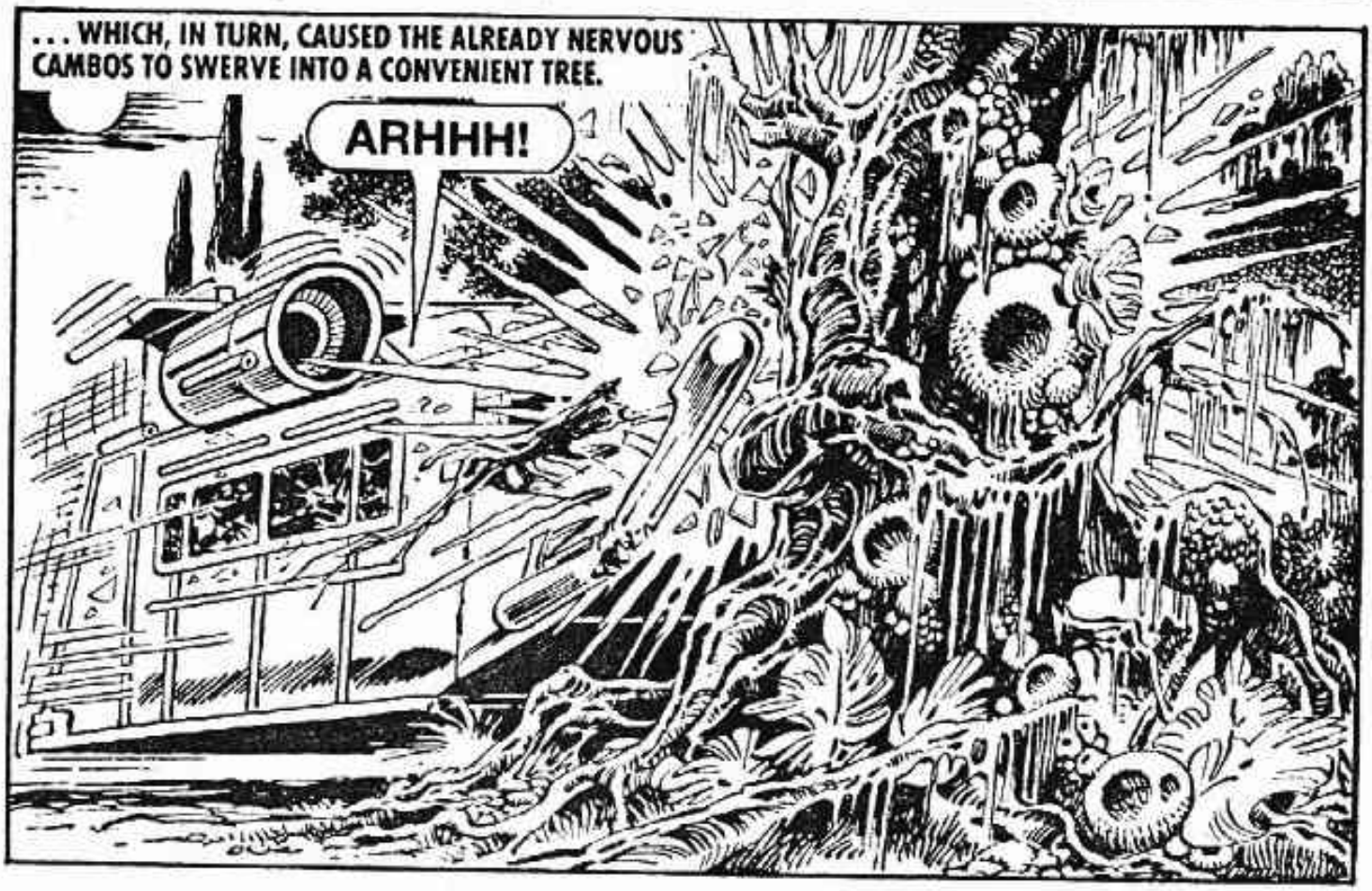

SOME KIND OF ACCIDENT, SLATZ — POP AND ME FOUND DEAD WITH THOSE TWO INGOTS ON US . . . AND YOU HAVE US TIED IN WITH SEEDY ALABLOK AND THE BULLION JOB.
THAT'S HOW IT'LL BE, KAYN.

WELL, AT LEAST SLATZ WASN'T KEEPING US IN SUSPENSE . . .
WE'LL USE THE OLD GUY'S OWN HOVTRUCK. THAT THOUSAND FOOT DROP AT THE HEAD OF THE VALLEY IS A HANDY SPOT FOR THE ACCIDENT.

SO OFF WE WENT . . .


KAYN, STAY STILL. STOP SHUFFLING AROUND.
CAN'T HELP IT — *URH*, GOT CRAMP.

I MANAGED TO REACH POP'S LAUNCHING LEVER . . . WHICH CAUSED SLATZ TO PANIC AND ACCIDENTALLY DISCHARGE HIS BLASTER . . .
WHAT THE . . .


. . . WHICH, IN TURN, CAUSED THE ALREADY NERVOUS CAMBOS TO SWERVE INTO A CONVENIENT TREE.
ARHHH!

POP AND I HEADED INTO BRUSH . . .

KEEP GOING, POP. MAKE ALL THE NOISE YOU CAN.
IF YOU SAY SO, BOY . . . IT'S LUCKY I TRUST YOU.

I TOOK TO COVER . . .
CAMBOS! HE'LL HAVE TO DO.

GOOD EVENING!
I TRIED TO REACH THE FALLEN BLASTER . . . BUT DIDN'T QUITE MAKE IT . . .
TOO BAD, KAYN.

SLATZ WAS INTERRUPTED . . .

SLATZ, YOU ARE ADVISED TO SURRENDER. ALL IS KNOWN TO ME.

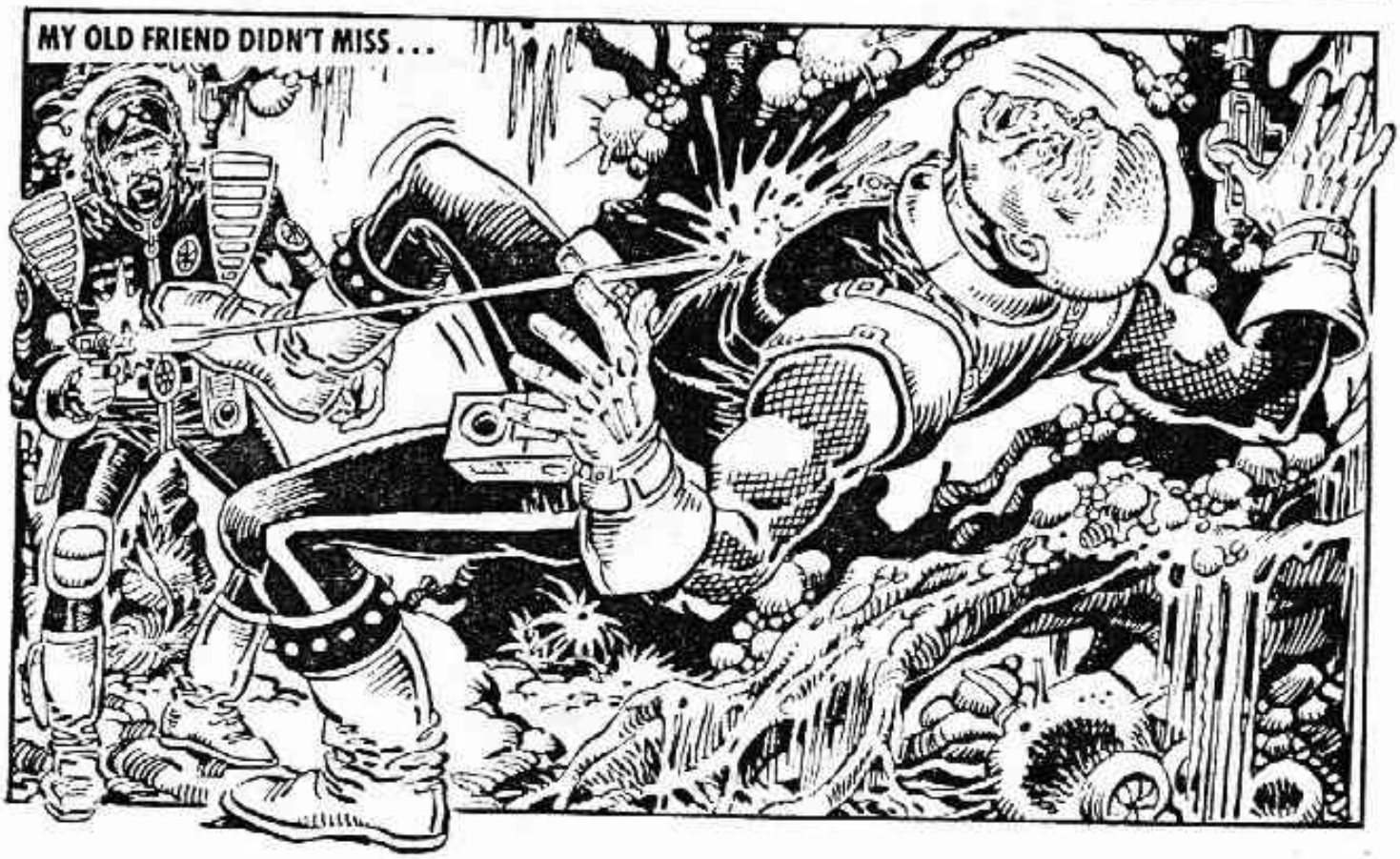
HAWKWUD!

SUPERCOP ARRIVED . . .

EARLIER TODAY I WAS APPROACHED BY A CERTAIN INSPECTOR WITH DISTURBING INFORMATION WHICH PERSUADED ME THAT YOU SHOULD BE FOLLOWED.

SO THE GREAT HAWKWUD FINALLY GOT AROUND TO SOME REAL POLICE WORK! YOU DUMB ANDROID, I'VE BEEN CARRYING YOU FOR YEARS. YOU'D BE NOTHING WITHOUT ME.

I SENSED THE DESPERATE INTENTION OF SLATZ . . . AND I KICKED . . .
YOU ARE NOTHING — AHHHH!


MY OLD FRIEND DIDN'T MISS . . .

THERE'LL BE PUBLIC UPROAR WHEN THIS STORY GETS OUT.
WHICH IS WHY IT MUSTN'T GET OUT, OLD FRIEND. BETTER BEAR THAT IN MIND IF YOU WANT YOUR INVESTIGATOR'S LICENCE RENEWED.

THE DEPARTMENT DID ALLOW ME THE REWARD FOR RECOVERY OF THE MAGRUX, BUT THAT WENT TO POP TO COVER LOST EQUIPMENT . . .
CROCODILES WERE A MISTAKE, KAYN. WHAT FOLK WANT IN A PET IS SOMETHING FURRY AND CUDDLY.

I DIDN'T EVEN GET MY FEE FROM SEEDY ALABLOK . . .
SURE YOU GOT ME OFF THE ORE BARGE RAP — ONLY NOW I'M FACING FIVE YEARS FOR LIFTING LIFERAFTS. KAYN, YOU DID A LOUSY JOB . . .

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DON'T MISS

THIS MONTH'S OTHER ACTION-PACKED ADVENTURE

NOW ON SALE

SUPERCOP

Hawkwud was a legend amongst the crime-fighting forces of the galaxy . . . an android detective who always got his man. When he arrested a bent cop for a massive robbery in space it seemed an open and shut case — till the accused hired Mikal R. Kayn to prove his innocence. That was something Kayn just couldn't resist . . . the chance to pit his wits against Supercop.

A MIKAL R. KAYN STORY

A MIKAL R. KAYN STORY